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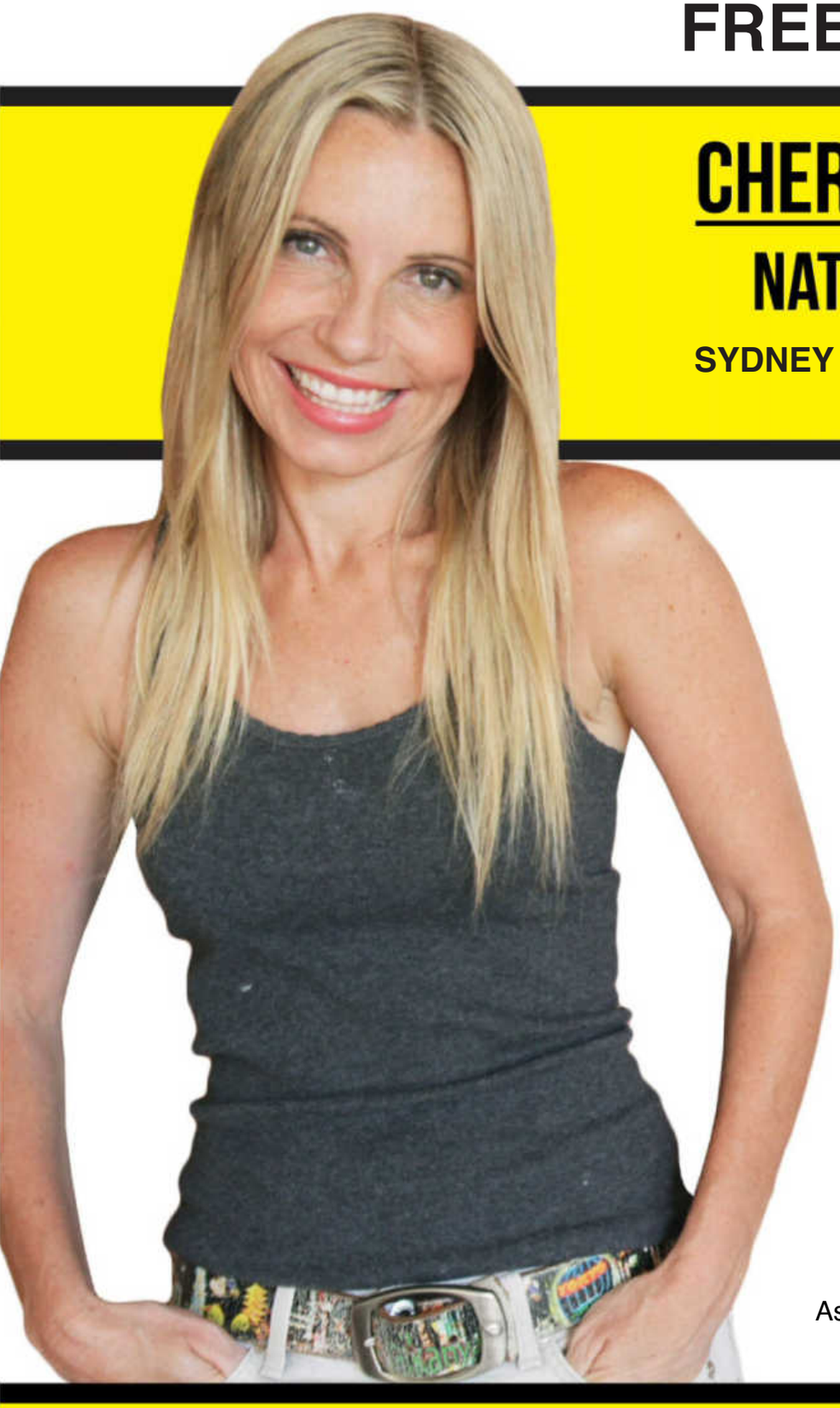
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Do You Make These Common Renovation Mistakes?

How a single mother from the Western Suburbs of Sydney has climbed the property ladder to become Australia's undisputed Renovation Queen & Celebrity TV Renovator.

This page is addressed to those thousands of honest, hard-working men and women who want to take things easier some day. But sooner rather than later.

Have a think about the successful people you know. What have they got that you haven't? Or more importantly, what are they DOING that you're not? Have you ever wondered if there is a secret recipe for success?

These are all important questions – having a thorough command of your own financial destiny is possibly one of the greatest assets you can have.

Imagine being in the position to say, "I can't afford to keep my day job anymore"... Well that's exactly what Cherie Barber said 13 years ago.

How She Did It

With a background in marketing for an international cosmetics company, Cherie always had a passion for property. At just 21 years old, she purchased her first home to live in. After making some basic improvements, Cherie on-sold the property and made a tidy little profit in the process.

It was that initial taste of success from the property game that had Cherie hooked.

For the next few years, she spent most of her weekends renovating and flipping properties for impressive profits.

So much so that in 2002, she left the safety and security of her full-time job despite the impressive pay.

What on earth was she thinking? Was she crazy?

Well, as Cherie put it, she simply...

'Could Not Afford To Keep Her Day Job Anymore!'

And that's no joke. Her second project that she worked on, over just 8 weeks, earnt her $268,000 - almost 3 times her annual salary.

In Cherie's first year as a professional renovator, she bought 6 houses with a combined value of $6.2 million. She did this with no stable income, no job and little money behind her.

Fast forward to 2015 and Cherie has completed more than 50 professional renovations and been involved in property deals with a total value in excess of $50 million.

And for 8 of those years, it has all been achieved while raising her daughter as a single mum.

So how did she do it?

Her Remarkable Innovation

To answer the question I posed earlier, YES... There is a recipe for success!

In the case of Cherie, it involves 20+ years of renovating properties, countless hours spent studying the property market and a long period of trial and error and valuable lessons.

This has enabled her to develop a detailed 8-step strategy and a long list of common errors and mistakes that regular renovators make.

"What most people don't know is that there is an 'art & science' to renovating for profit."

I won't sugar coat it. Renovators everywhere are throwing money down the drain. And if you haven't already, it's likely you will in the future if you plan to renovate, even if it's your own home.

So tell me... *are you making these common renovation mistakes*?

- ☑ Wasting money by going over-time and over budget...
- ☑ Paying too much for basic materials...
- ☑ Not knowing the right amount to spend on your bathroom, living room or kitchen...
- ☑ Getting ripped off by tradies...
- ☑ Finding out the crippling costs of 're-work'...
- ☑ The list goes on...

<u>Important</u>: How Cherie Can Help You Today

Obviously we can't cover everything here, however Cherie has unveiled the 21 most common mistakes renovators make and how to avoid them on her brand new DVD. And it's FREE.

Imagine being able to replace your entire income via something that's real and achievable so you can spend time doing the things you love in life.

Things like:

- Spending more time with your friends and family...
- Buying all those nice things you keep passing up on...



Cherie Barber – 'Celebrity TV Renovator'

- Having the cash to take more holidays...
- Securing financial freedom for yourself and your family...

Well today you can take an important first step.

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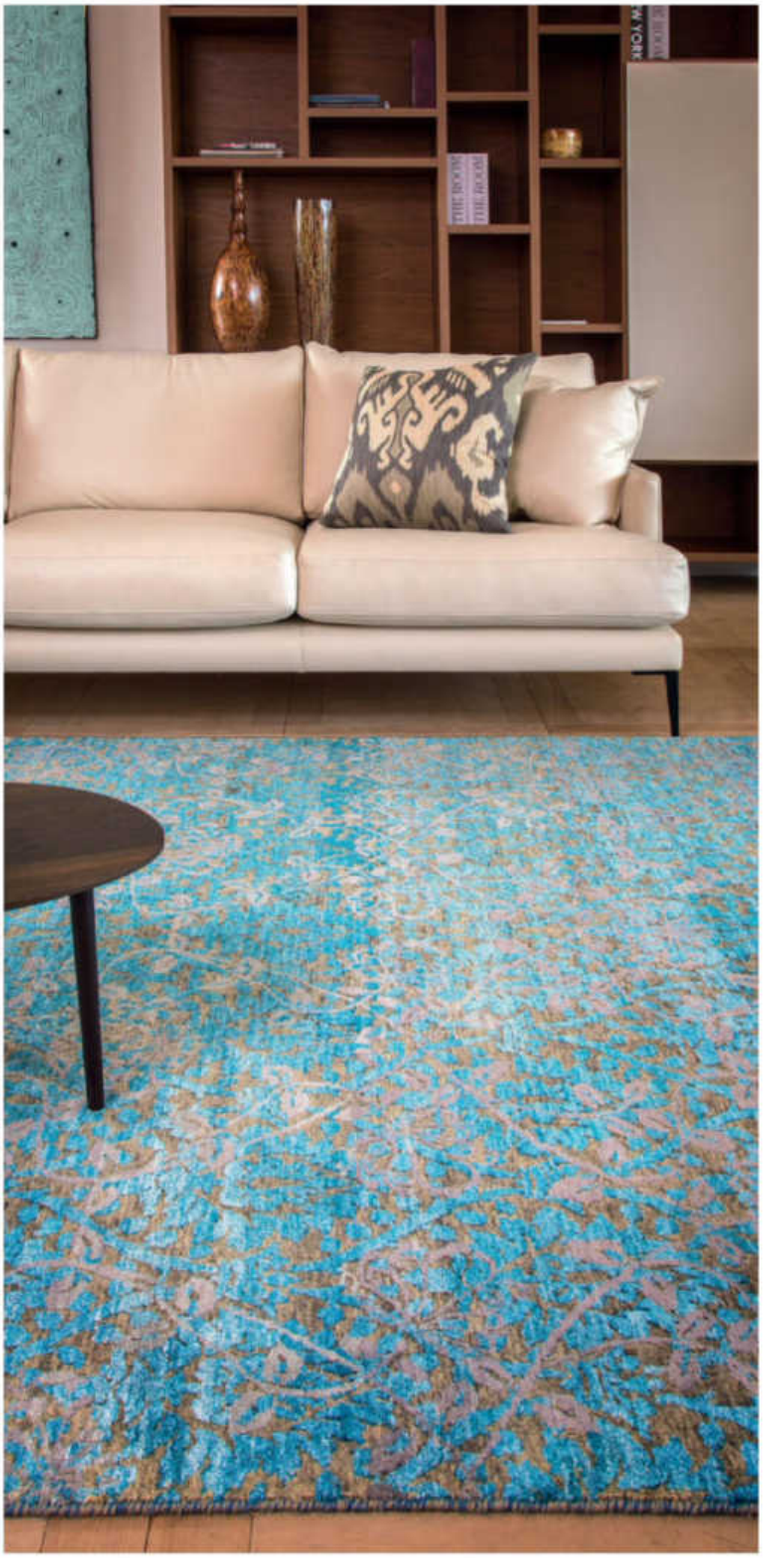
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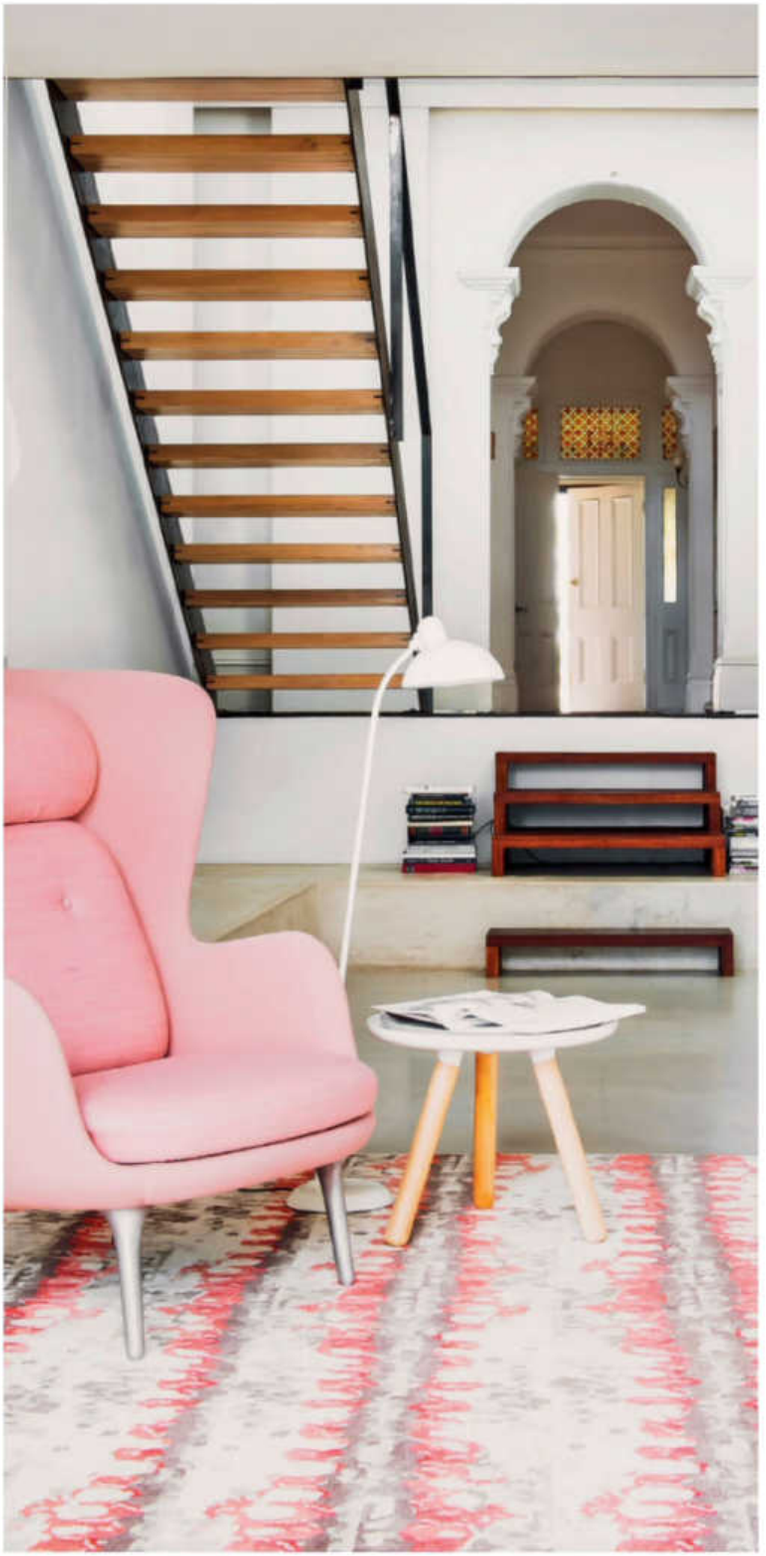
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So why have hand knots become so popular?
Yosi Tal, Managing Director of Designer Rugs knows the answer.

The urge to decorate your home is bigger than ever before. People are starting to understand the importance of good design and good quality products. Designer Rugs have been dedicated to outstanding design for almost 30 years, creating our own quality in-house designs as well as collaborating with many well-known Australian interior designers and artists to produce some of the most beautiful and famous rugs in the world. Making rugs and carpets by hand using only the finest materials is a cherished and nurtured art form. Each rug is carefully handmade, the methods virtually unchanged from time beyond memory, using traditional techniques in the service of contemporary design. The glowing imperfections of natural materials and the variations of the human touch are in every stage of the process, the result of a commitment to promote individuality and inspiration in all of its production. Each rug is truly unique unto itself, conceived in a journey through a sea of human hands weaving it into existence. It is for this reason Hand knots have become so popular with today's market. Clients see the value in an original handmade product and are even prepared to wait up to 6 months for it.

At Designer Rugs we believe the rug is the heart of the home and the defining design factor in a space, It is truly a worthwhile investment and incredibly important to get right.





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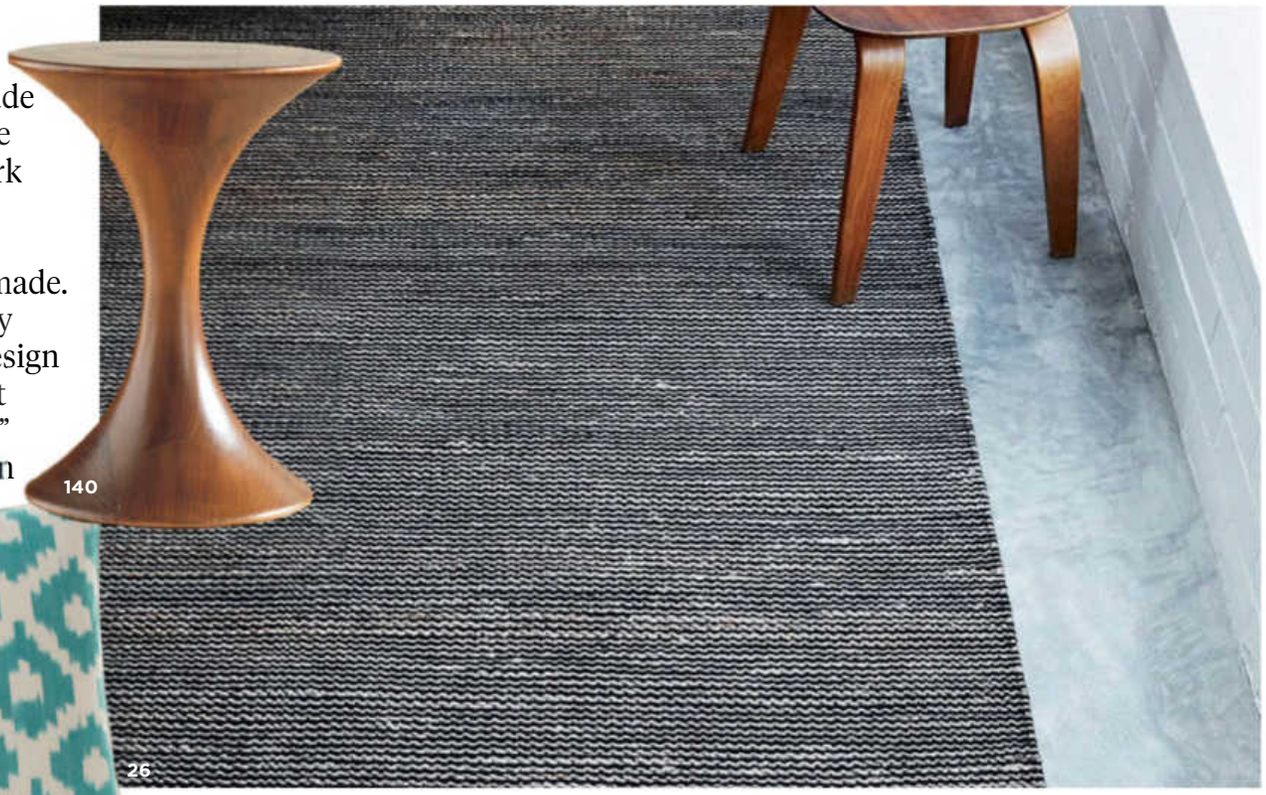
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"No matter how crude or illegible, the mere act of making a mark on a blank surface means a creative decision has to be made. The first sketch may not be where the design ends up, but at least you've made a start"
— Peter Colquhoun







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FROM THE EDITOR

Recently, it's been busy on the Australian design scene and I've been involved in judging a number of design awards. Each year, I'm invited by several design organisations to do so, and it's always such a pleasure — and a challenge. One of these was for VIVID (Vibrant Visions in Design) held in conjunction with Decor + Design in Melbourne. VIVID is an opportunity for students and emerging designers to showcase their work to the industry and, hopefully, have their designs spotted by a potential manufacturer, setting them on the path to a successful future. I say it's a challenge because there are always so many brilliant entries and it's hard to pick just one. The joy of it all is that, although only one can win the final trophy, all are eligible to be selected by potential manufacturers. I hope to see the wonderful designs in production — and in this magazine — very soon.

The Australian Institute of Architects recently held its own state Architecture Awards around the country. I attended the awards night in Sydney, a highly anticipated event attended by more than 500 guests. As a member of the media, I am privileged to get the inside scoop on the winners prior to the announcement in order to prepare news releases and stories in advance. I'm always thrilled when I see projects from *Grand Designs Australia* shortlisted in the awards — even more so if they take out a gong.

Building one's own home is no mean feat, but it seems Australians are still very passionate about doing so. Finding the right place to create your personal piece of paradise is getting harder as land becomes scarcer in our major cities, hence we are seeing many projects on *Grand Designs Australia* being constructed in rural areas. Take the Yackandandah Sawmill House featured in this issue, for example. Not only is this in a fabulous location, but it was built for a relatively modest sum. What I love about this house is its simple form, environmental credentials and small footprint. It has a strong relationship with its natural surroundings with the use of local timber and recycled concrete blocks. Also, much of the furniture and furnishings were handmade by the owner, which imparts a real sense of self into the finished product. I'm delighted to report that in the Victorian Architecture Awards, Yackandandah Sawmill House was the winner in the Residential Architecture Houses (New) category and picked up a Commendation in the Sustainable Architecture category. You can read the inspiring story on page 62. I hope to see more houses from future shows gaining such well-deserved recognition.



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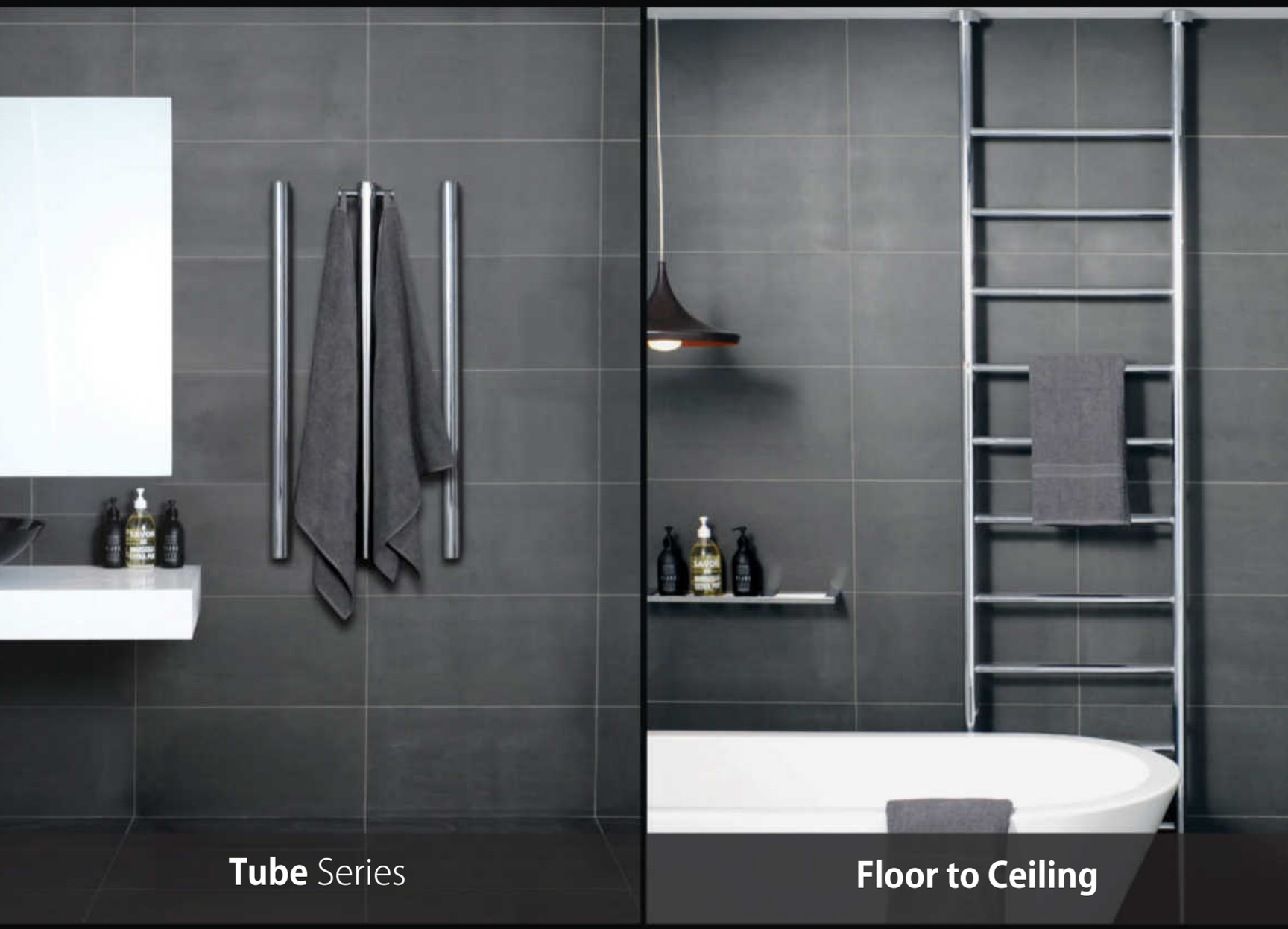
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FROM PETER MADDISON

Season Six of *Grand Designs Australia* has recently aired, showcasing three homes that exhibit a powerful theme — architecture that is all about personality and place. The houses are Yackandandah Sawmill House, Harcourt Quarry House and the Kinglake Non Toxic House. Visit *lifestyle.com.au* for details.

So, what is personality and place? Are these principles expensive and are they worth pursuing?

Flicking through the pages of this magazine, one is struck by the diversity of styles, materials, construction techniques, environmental systems and fixtures and fittings available. Filtering through this maze is often left to someone who has a judicious eye (training and/or qualifications) who will make cohesive selections with a clear design direction. Usually, it's a designer or architect, and sometimes it's a developer or builder. Yes, it can be done by a layperson, but it is much harder to achieve clarity of vision.

From my perspective, the houses that have the most resonance and meaning incorporate all the pragmatic elements such as sustainability, orientation, ergonomics, appropriate costing and timing. But they go the extra step of being relevant to one's local environment and have a deeper meaning to the owners. This extra step takes a longer lead time and research before any building work begins. I always say it takes the same time to do the design and technical drawings as it does to build the house itself. On average, this is 18 months plus 18 months, which equates to a three-year turnaround time, provided there are no planning issues.

If you haven't got the time, you may opt for a pre-designed off-the-plan house from a volume builder. Now, many people do this and are quite happy. If, however, you are after a more personalised abode, a one-off, unique design can be so rewarding. And, no, it doesn't have to cost an arm and a leg. Two of the houses mentioned had their cost of works at $260,000 and $600,000 (both plus GST). To debunk a myth, *GDA* doesn't showcase purely expensive homes. Will a one-off home cost more? More often that not, it will, but this can be offset by being modest in size and material selections.

The Yackandandah Sawmill House, for instance, is completely tailored around the owner/sculptor's identity, Ben Gilbert. It's made from timber milled by his next-door neighbour, Bernie, and sourced from locally reclaimed forest logs. The building blocks that form the walls are waste concrete from a Wangaratta batching plant and are simply stacked in a rudimentary manner and left raw. The delightful moving roof and walls are one big experiment, made by hand in Ben's adjacent sawmill by his brother/architect, Chris. It's the experimental and wacky bits that are the most joyous in this home.

The most important things in life are not always pragmatic and practical. It's the bits that tickle your soul that count. So, embrace personality and place.



PETER MADDISON
EDITOR-AT-LARGE

Project: Yackandandah Sawmill House **Architect:** Chris Gilbert, Archier **Photography:** Emma Cross

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ALL EARS

Our design-savvy Facebook followers were as impressed as we were with the Port Melbourne Urban Green House from Issue 4.3 when we posted it up on our wall.



INSTAGRAM

ROOM WITH A VIEW

Instagrammers love this Tasmanian getaway by Room 11 Architects as much as we do. Nestled high up in the treetops with a view like no other, it's not hard to see why.

PINTEREST

SHEDDING LIGHT

The current design climate is all about clever use of space, and on Pinterest, we found exactly that from Danny Broe Architect. Space is a sought-after commodity, so get the most out of an unused shed by turning it into a room you can really use.



Architect: Danny Broe Architect **Engineers:** Partridge Partners **Photographer:** Karina Illovska



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Our Facebook friends adore the immortalisation of the Pure Evil Bunny by Charles Uzzell Edwards in celebration of Royal Doulton's 200th year. Each of the five ceramic pieces depicts Charles' most recognised works.



WEBSITE

UNDERSTATED AND EFFORTLESS

We love the simplicity of this bathroom featured on our website. The Italian handmade matt-white tiles work perfectly with the cement-coloured grouting — a flawless backdrop for any bathroom.

completehome.com.au/project/title/52839.html

TREND REPORT

26: AS NATURE INTENDED
33: LIGHT MATTERS
39: SHINING EXAMPLES
42: COLOUR ME HAPPY



Project: Brookfield Spotted Gum, Series Five Episode Eight **Photography:** Toby Scott



AS **NATURE** INTENDED

Choose eco-friendly furnishings and be confident you're doing your part to help yourself, your family and the environment

WORDS // JAMES CLELAND

Why buy eco furnishings? That's a good question and one that we should be asking ourselves whenever we purchase products for our homes. Many products contain toxic substances called VOCs (volatile organic compounds), which may be harmful to you and your family's health. Also, many are made using environmentally unsustainable practices and materials, which are damaging the very earth we rely on to sustain us.

There are alternatives that not only look wonderful, but don't damage the environment. Responsibly sourced materials and manufacturing practices are making their mark in the design world as producers become more environmentally aware.

In Series One of *Grand Designs Australia* TV, homeowner Chris Clarke chose sustainable materials and furnishings for his beautiful abode, Callignee II. Taking inspiration from this stylish, sustainable home, here's our pick of eco-friendly furniture pieces.



We Love

01: Maggiz magazine holder. *greatdanefurniture.com*
02: Leather plant hanger. *patersonandsteele.com.au*
03: Small and medium trinket bowls, plus trinket tray. *mooku.com.au*



SERIES ONE, EPISODE ONE

"Callignee II was designed to be a rustic home ... She was designed to be free and fully sustainable — a place for healthy living" — Chris Clarke





02

01



EARTHY LOOKS

Taking inspiration from the natural world, these pieces include materials such as water hyacinth, hemp, hessian, cork, marble, terracotta and reclaimed timber. Each piece is crafted with love and an appreciation for organic shapes, textures and patterns. We especially love the contemporary-style coffee table (08), made from the old Glenmaggie Bridge in Victoria's Gippsland.

03



04



06



05

01: IT'S A WRAP
The Dharma Door Shibori throw is handmade by artisans in Mali, Africa from strips of cotton stitched together and dyed in natural indigo.
thedharmadoor.com.au

02: MATERIAL MATTERS
The Material pendants by Noergaard Kechayas are available in cork, marble, oak, terracotta, concrete and die-cast aluminium.
greatdanefurniture.com

03: WOVEN WONDER
The Octopus accent chair features a modern design in a solid timber frame with natural fibre weaving and teak legs.
cargoimportswholesale.weebly.com

04: SACK CLOTH
Store your possessions in The Dharma Door hessian sack in Cloth Fabric's Boardwalk Indigo.
thedharmadoor.com.au

05: BASKET CASE
The Dharma Door Duo baskets in Wollemi Indigo are made from natural hessian from Cloth Fabric.
thedharmadoor.com.au

06: COOL CUBE
The Buko Cube table is formed from slices of teak joined together to create a unique accent piece.
cargoimportswholesale.weebly.com


07


08


09


10


11

07: FORM AND FUNCTION
Hand-crafted in Nepal using fair trade practices, these wool-felt rugs and cushions by Elk & Earth will look divine in any room. *dwell.id.au*

08: RUSTIC TOUCH
Crafted from premium recycled stringybark from the Glenmaggie Bridge in Gippsland, this beautiful coffee table is naturally striking. *rustfurniture.com.au*

09: SIMPLY STUNNING
The Jan Juc dining table is custom made in Australia from recycled Australian hardwood messmate with a natural oil and wax finish. *bomboracustomfurniture.com.au*

10: RUG UP
Hand-crafted by artisans in Kathmandu, Nepal, the all-natural Roccoco plush ball rug by Elk & Earth is so soft to the touch that it is perfect for children's rooms. *dwell.id.au*

11: COOL BAMBOO
Ikea's Nipprig collection features a range of sustainable furnishings, including this natural bamboo. armchair. *ikea.com/au*

12: RUSTIC REVIVAL
Bring nature inside with this beautiful rustic table, hand-crafted from recycled French oak. *salvage.com.au*

13: HOLD ALL
Ikea's Riffla basket is hand-woven in natural water hyacinth with cotton straps and is perfect for storing laundry, wood for the heater, fruit and vegetables and just about anything else you need. *ikea.com/au*

14: WATER WORKS
Made with a solid teak frame and a water hyacinth weave, this sturdy chair makes good use of an otherwise waterways-choking weed. *cargoimportswholesale.weebly.com*


12


13


14


01

ECO SLEEK

Eco doesn't always have to mean shabby. While these pieces may be new as opposed to upcycled, they are manufactured from environmentally sustainable materials — including leather, timber, felt, resin, post-consumer waste, hemp fibre, water-based glues and recycled lining board — and sourced from certified manufacturers. Their elegant shapes and classic good looks will suit even the most discerning homeowner.


02

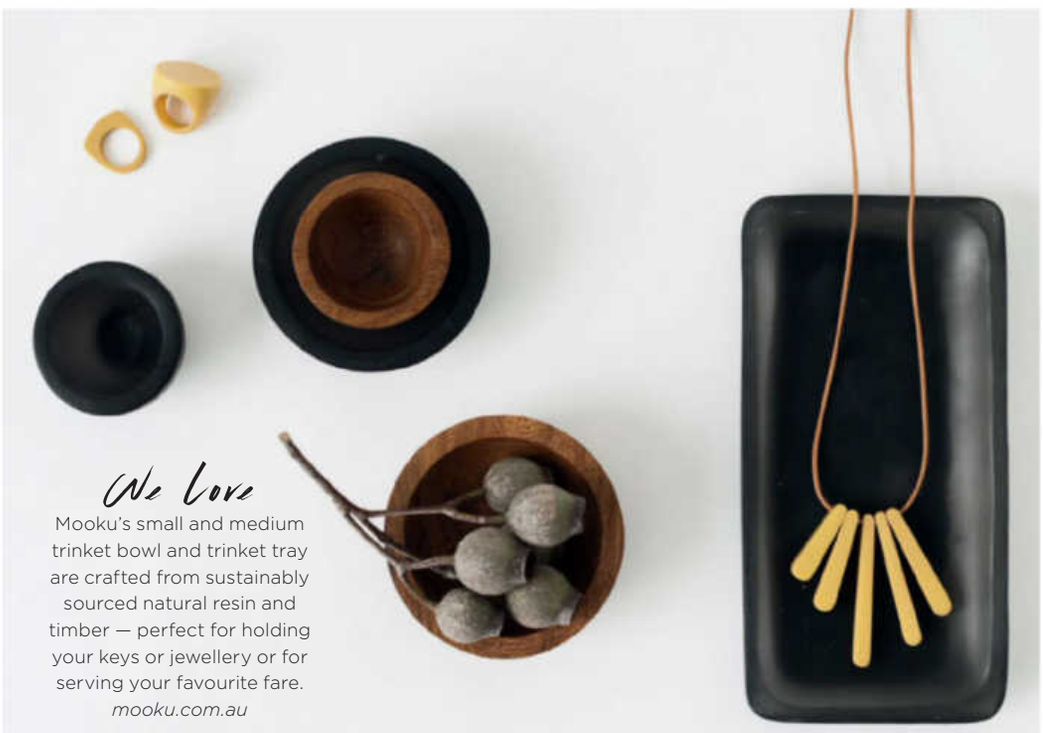
01: NIGHT LIGHT
The Pod Noir curved pendant light is hand-crafted in Tasmania using vegetable-tanned local leather that is both sustainably sourced and biodegradable.
whodidthat.com.au

02: SOFA, SO GOOD
The sleek Sterling sofa is fully upholstered and features cylindrical timber legs, which are available in various timber-stain finishes and a solid plantation-timber frame. It is available as a two, three or four seater. *temperaturedesign.com.au*

03: TRAY TOP
This fully upholstered round ottoman with optional tray is made in Australia and features blanket-stitch detailing, GECA-certified foam and timber, 100 per cent recycled lining board and water-based glues.
temperaturedesign.com.au

04: EASY LIVING
Rest easy in the chic Benito Winter wingback chair upholstered in your choice of fabric. Made with 100 per cent recycled lining board and water-based glues and featuring fine details such as upholstered buttons and solid oak legs.
temperaturedesign.com.au


03



We Love

Mooku's small and medium trinket bowl and trinket tray are crafted from sustainably sourced natural resin and timber — perfect for holding your keys or jewellery or for serving your favourite fare.
mooku.com.au


04


05


06


07

05: TIMBER WE LOVE
The Black Hoop pendant is crafted in certified Tasmanian oak, blackwood or black-dyed, FSC-certified eucalyptus or custom veneers.
whodidthat.com.au

06: SITTING PRETTY
Made in Australia and available in your fabric choice, August chairs feature solid ash or oak with a recycled industrial resin shell.
temperaturedesign.com.au

07: FACTORY WASTE
Constructed from 33 per cent recycled material from the manufacturer's own factory, Bolon Flow flooring is the natural choice.
bolon.com.au



Editor's Pick

I love the Drift Weave rug from Armadillo & Co's Earth Collection. It's handmade in India by fair trade artisans and features a sophisticated design in natural hemp and pure wool. *armadillo-co.com*


08


09

08: NATURAL SELECTION
The Nest weave rug from Armadillo & Co's Earth Collection is hand-woven in natural hemp and is available in natural and undyed fibres. *armadillo-co.com*

09: LUXE LOOK
The classic-style Chester fully upholstered deep-buttoned ottoman has the look of luxury. Materials include GECA-certified foam and timber and 100 per cent recycled lining board.
temperaturedesign.com.au



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Barazza's Made to Measure offers a unique ability to seamlessly incorporate cooktops, sinks and accessories into a stainless steel benchtop. It gives the designer the ultimate freedom to create a functional piece for the kitchen, which boasts an unrivalled minimalist elegance.

– Barazza Made to Measure

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LIGHT MATTERS

Shine on with these stylish lighting fixtures

EDITED BY // HOLLY CUNNEEN

01: LIGHTBULB MOMENT
Juxtaposing materials adds textural interest to any space. The Venus duo marble-bottom pendant from Globe West disproportionately mixes raw-look timber with marble and is available in black or white. *globewest.com.au*

02: SIMPLY STYLISH
With its classic shape, smooth lines and matt sheen, the Ollie brass tulip pendant from Globe West makes a simple yet stylish statement. *globewest.com.au*

03: HANGING OUT
Danish-inspired design meets sultry, soft lighting with the Husk pendant. While this understated design looks great as a low-hung bedside lamp, line two or three along an island bench in the kitchen for a more conventional look. *beaconlighting.com.au*

04: DOUBLE TROUBLE
Two's better than one with this double-shade chandelier from Stilnovo. An original 1960s piece from Italy, this chandelier remains in excellent condition and is as stylish now as it was then. *1stdibs.com*

05: SHAPESHIFTER
The minimalist Triangle light really stands out from the crowd. Boasting a unique triangle shape, we love that a design of such simplicity can create so much intrigue. *valodesign.com.au*

06: CAGED IN
Used as a single pendant light or lined up above a breakfast bar or dining table, these wire caged pendant lights add an element of cool to any room. *valodesign.com.au*


07

07: SHED LIGHT ON THE ENVIRONMENT
Made from sustainably sourced local vine and woven onto a large handmade metal frame, the Vine pendant light from Mr and Mrs Munro is the perfect eco lighting choice. *mrandmrsmunro.com*

08: DUAL-PURPOSE
The Suite lamp integrates multiple functions in the one, unobtrusive frame. Dimmable LED lighting and a USB charging station tie together a stylish yet ultimately practical table lamp. *vibia.com*


08

09: ALL TIED UP
Hang it, drape it or knot it, there are myriad ways you can display the Rope cage light from Have You Met Miss Jones. This unique lamp (pictured here in navy blue) features a rope and powder-coated cage. *haveyoumetmissjones.com.au*


09


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10: PERFECTLY POISED
Each Coco pendant is individually turned by artisans and assembled before being sent to the Coco Flip studio, ensuring the integrity of the product. The soft lines and curvaceous shapes are simply effortless. *cocoflip.com.au*

11: VARIETY IS KEY
Made from translucent porcelain and glazed stoneware, these Porcelume pendants use different shapes and colours to play off each other and add a sense of depth. *porcelume.com.au*

12: BEHIND BARS
The Industrial cage pendant light from Valo is perfect for a strong, moody interior. If you're going for a look with a little more edge, this light certainly stands its ground. *valodesign.com.au*

13: MATT EFFECTS
The sleek design of the Lindvall lampshade will add modern sophistication to any room. Entirely handmade, Lindvall is available in brass or white. *eurolucewebshop.com.au*

14: STRAIGHT DROP
The Pendant lamp in glass from Tecnolumen comes in a large range of colours and specifications to suit any interior. Choose from clear glass with or without a frosted ring, opaque, melon, red (pictured) or blue. The porcelain is also available either glazed or unglazed. *tecnolumen.com*

15: ARTISANAL FEAT
A solid FSC timber light, each Oak pendant is handcrafted and defined by the grain of the wood selected. An intersecting hole allows for a variety of hanging options, while a choice of three finishes caters to personal preferences. *rossgardam.com.au*


15


16

16: CIRCLE OF LIFE
This stunning spherical chandelier by Christopher Boots features hand-textured and treated finishes, prizing unique surface variations. The crystals are attached with rare earth magnets and can be easily removed to wash with warm water for a renewed sparkle. *christopherboots.com*

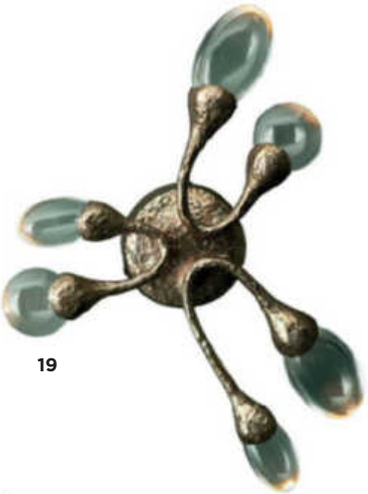
17: ZIGGY STARDUST
The Ziggy pendant light by Bernabeifreeman features bold graphics inspired by a deconstructed zigzag. As well as matt white, the perforated aluminium shade is available in matt black or satin grey, plus you can choose to contrast or blend the inside component with a choice of blue, green, matt black or satin copper. *ismobjects.com.au*

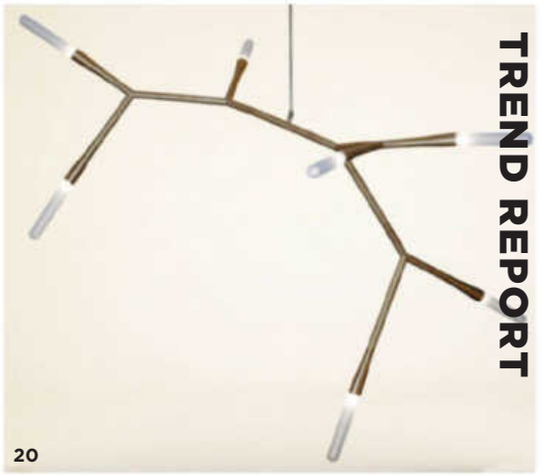
18: CLOUDY SHADE
The three-tier Cloud shade chandelier from Ochre makes a bold, luxurious statement and is available in three muted colours (it is pictured here in Old Rose). *ochre.net*

19: FLY ON THE WALL
Damselfly from Ochre is a truly unique interpretation of the humble wall light. Each solid cast-bronze stem is finished with a delicate-looking glass drop, which is illuminated by LED light. *ochre.net*


17


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20: MODERN ELEGANCE
Comprising several components, Phasmida by Christopher Boots is a modern and modular chandelier that allows for near-endless configuration options. To ensure a lasting life, Phasmida is mirror polished and then lacquered or powder-coated. *christopherboots.com*



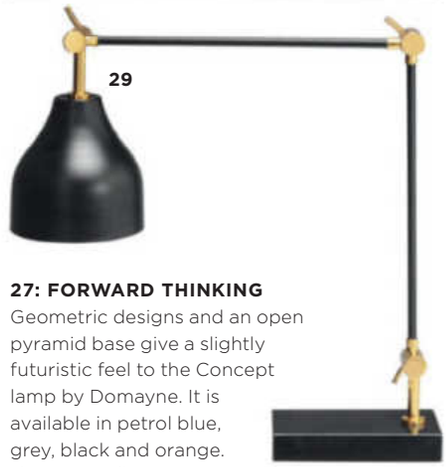
Flip Out

You may remember the Richmond House from Series Four — it's certainly stuck around in our minds. A far cry from the neighbouring quaint Victorian terraces, the owners opted for a modern, almost futuristic look for their home. The Coco pendant light from Coco Flip was featured to complement the home's interior styling. A melting pot of Japanese and Scandinavian aesthetics, Coco hangs mid-air with perfect poise


21


27


28


29

21: SWEET AS AN ANGEL
The aptly named Cherub table lamp from Ochre features a bulbous hand-blown glass body in smoke, amethyst or clear (pictured) and a polished nickel fitting. The ultimate in luxury, the shade is available in lined soft silk (pictured), vertical gathered silk or vertical gathered organza. *ochre.net*

22: ART IN DESIGN
Architectural by design, intriguing by nature, the Cozumel floor lamp celebrates the growing popularity of "furnitecture". With its structural design and architectural lines, this humble floor lamp is a true statement piece. *aboutspace.net.au*

23: SPACE AGE
Add interest to your home office with the futuristic-inspired Pine cone table lamp from BoConcept. Available in an array of colours, it is shown here with a black metal base and copper-finished shade. *boconcept.com/en-au*

24: GREEN WITH ENVY
The Rare desk lamp by Stilnovo is made of metal and features a unique green cloth–laminate cover on the shade and base, an articulated head and brass stand. *1stdibs.com*

25: RETRO CHARM
A subtle '60s vibe and a slick finish ensure the Dome floor lamp will be a welcome addition to any home. Its curvaceous arm and bulbous shade produce an intriguing effect. *domayneonline.com.au*

26: PIPE DREAMS
The Ava floor lamp in copper takes on an interesting aesthetic through its soft corners and rose-coloured hue. Alluding to exposed pipe work through its frame, the Ava floor lamp would suit a minimally styled space as much as it would an industrial one. *ozdesignfurniture.com.au*

27: FORWARD THINKING
Geometric designs and an open pyramid base give a slightly futuristic feel to the Concept lamp by Domayne. It is available in petrol blue, grey, black and orange. *domayneonline.com.au*

28: THE SUN'S OUT
The key to a well-lit, spacious-looking room is multiple outlets of light. With its unimposing metal frame and upholstered shade, the Sun floor lamp from Fanuli will do the job perfectly. *fanuli.com.au*

29: SQUARE OFF
Add some sophistication with the streamlined Media table lamp. Gold accents teamed with a sharp right-angled arm add to the lamp's no-nonsense effect. While it is available in white, we prefer the strong look of the black. *domayneonline.com.au*

30: BRIGHT LIGHTS
Available in four colours, the Ollie table lamp (pictured here in yellow) from Milk + Sugar has a powder-coated steel base and matching cloth shade. *cranmorehome.com.au*


30



Featured Artwork;
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01

01: CONTEMPORARY BEACH HOUSE
This impressive house by Wolf Architects sits on a hillside on the edge of the ocean. Located on the ground level, the infinity pool connects seamlessly to the sea for a dazzling effect. Internally, extensive double-glazed openings bring in views of the horizon, while heavy-duty glass and render with special sealant make for an extremely high weather-resistant exterior. As added protection, the high-tech paint used on the render surface is resistant to mould and is self-cleaning. Structurally, the upper floor cantilevers toward the infinity pool, allowing the house to appear as if it is hovering above the ground. The overhang also works to accentuate the hilly landscape that engulfs the house.
wolfarchitects.com.au

SHINING EXAMPLES

Our picks of unique residential architecture

EDITED BY // APRIL OSSINGTON



02



03

02: HELLO HOUSE
A shop in its past life, the Hello House by OOF! Architecture certainly gives the neighbours something to talk about. Located in Richmond, Melbourne, this Victorian-era building was transformed into a family home and artist's studio. Of course, its most notable feature is the white brick wall featuring the word "HELLO". While this is an ultra-modern and unique feature, the reimagined home still gives a nod to the 19th-century heritage buildings in the area including '60s and '70s brick flats and small warehouses.
oof.net.au
Photography: Nic Granleese

03: COLORS HOUSE
This home in Nagoya, Japan by CUBO Design Architect incorporates the various visions of a father-and-daughter duo. Featuring a clean and white contemporary Japanese style, the exterior comprises a collection of stacked boxes that harmonise with the surroundings. The indigo-coloured feature wall is decorated

with a calming ivy-inspired pattern. While the father asked for a Japanese style, the daughter wanted an artistic interior design with a vivid colour scheme. The perfect example of old meets new, two separate living spaces were created. On the right side is a demure Japanese aesthetic while on the left, a bright and modern colour scheme that still pays homage to a Japanese design aesthetic. The Western-style room on the first floor features a black tatami straw floor, red feature wall and stunning art piece painted on sliding paper panels. *cubod.com*
Photography: Yasuno Sakata

04: AUSTIN
Previously a dilapidated 1920s warehouse, Austin from Smart Design Studio was transformed into a block of trendy apartments in Sydney's Surry Hills. To maintain the heritage feel of the original structure, the building's name, Brackenbury & Austin, was retained over the front entry doors. In keeping with the bohemian character of the suburb, fiery chilli-coloured render was chosen for the façade. The main focus of the design was to incorporate rectangular openings into the structure. This not only allows light to pour into the dwelling, but also adds a unique architectural element. *smartdesignstudio.com*
Photography: Sharrin Rees

05: NEW TOWN ROAD HOUSE
Winner of the 2015 Tasmanian Institute of Architects Peter Willmott Award for Small Project Architecture, New Town Road House by Core Collective is a great example of adaptive reuse. The project involved reconfiguring a Tasmanian fish and chip shop into a two-bedroom unit. Originally built in 1962 as a boot maker's store, the initial floor plan measured just 76m^2. While retaining as much of the existing building as possible, a range of space-saving innovations including movable components were put in place to create adaptable spaces. *corecollective.com.au*
Photography: Chris Clinton



Light House

Perched on a cliff overlooking the sea at Dover Heights, Sydney, the Light House by Peter Stutchbury Architecture was awarded the coveted Wilkinson Award for Residential Architecture at this year's NSW Australian Institute of Architects Awards. The exterior of this sculptural house is completely curved and predominantly constructed of cement with an origami-like copper roof. Interestingly, the Light House has no internal cavity walls. The walls inside consist of a single skin of vertically laid recycled hardwood planks. *peterstutchbury.com.au*


04


05



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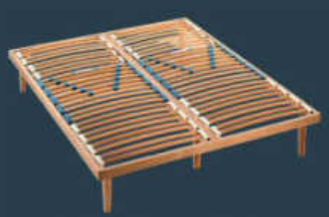
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COLOUR ME HAPPY

With spring comes a wave of inspiration and an overarching desire to liven things up. One of the most effective ways to inject new life into your home is with a fresh coat of paint. So, here are our favourite forecasted spring colours

EDITED BY // HOLLY CUNNEEN

01: OMBRÉ EFFECT
Subtleties in design and the tonal features of this silk-wool rug from Nepal work hand in hand to emulate the naturally occurring variations in the Nepalese landscape. *designerrugs.com.au*

02: SMALL ACCENTS
Punctuate your home with colour and light. The shapely base of the teal Hollow table lamp contrasts against the generous lampshade, which ensures a soft diffusing of light. *freedom.com.au*

03: AN ARTISTIC EMBRACE
The visible brush strokes and striking gradations of blue add to the overall intrigue of this work of art, dubbed *Slow Walk*. *unitedartworks.net*

04: FEATURE FURNITURE
Recently relaunched by Getama, the 501a Easy Chair by Hans Wegner features a solid oak frame, balancing out the upholstery on the body and arms. *greatdanefurniture.com*

05: SIMPLE SILHOUETTE
Sliding doors take up no space at all, making them the perfect solution when you're strapped for space. Liven up the living room with this turquoise TV bench. *ikea.com/au*

06: BLUE LAGOON
The bulbous base of the Albert Squat vessel from Freedom makes it perfect for short-stemmed blooms. Trim the stalks of a few irises, hyacinths or blue wisterias for a rich blue-on-blue look. *freedom.com.au*

07: SMOOTH MOVES
The soft curves of the Ned armchair create an uninterrupted, irresistible flow. Ned is also available with Level A, GECA and timber Chain of Custody environmental certification. *jardan.com.au*

08: ARM'S LENGTH
This extendable coat hanger was designed in 1996 by Stefano Giovannoni for Magis and is the perfect way to inject colour onto your walls. Champion the colour with a matching blue wall in a lighter or darker shade. *cultdesign.com.au*

09: EASTERN FLAIR
The Jaipur Braid cushion from Jonathan Adler represents a modern take on traditional Indian artisanal work. Dark blue lines the bright blue swirls for a mesmerising juxtaposition. *cocorepublic.com.au*

10: CUBISM
Vibrant colour and geometric shapes are the heroes in Jonathan Adler's Jaipur Cubes cushion. The natural linen pillow is embroidered in cotton and meticulously dyed by hand. *cocorepublic.com.au*

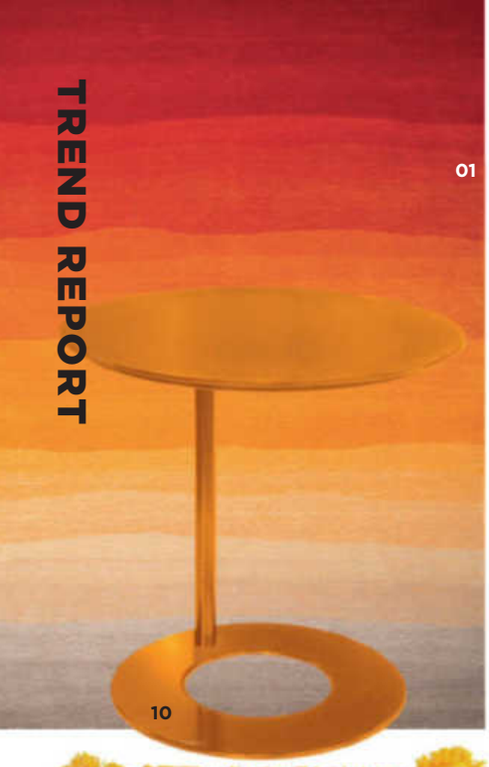




BLUE

Forget the winter chill and reinvent your space with the vibrant palette of blues on offer from Haymes. Redefine your style, your space and yourself by capturing the essence of spring. Condare and Stormy Blue are our top picks. *haymespaint.com.au*

Props by Fenton & Fenton
Artwork by Megan Weston
Styling by Ruth Welsby
Photography by Mike Baker



















01: ENDLESS SUMMER
The Rising Heat rug is, unsurprisingly, inspired by the sunrise. Its warm, graduating tones will add heat and an element of the tropics wherever you choose to place it. *therugcollection.com.au*

02: STORE IT
With plenty of storage space and a clean white palette, the Ava bookshelf will impart modern style and colour into your study, lounge or bedroom. *zanui.com.au*

03: LOW RIDER
The Robot Too low sideboard in powder-coated steel is perfectly suited as a media stand due to its open-back pigeonhole shelf. The sculptural legs give it extra interest. *andnew.co.uk*

04: NATURALLY GEOMETRIC
Compact and geometric, the strong, bold colour of the Van sofa from Jardan (pictured here in Safari Tangerine) is the perfect complement to the boxy design. *jardan.com.au*

05: SITTING PRETTY
The Yoko yellow barstool offers a simple way to add colour to your kitchen. Its clean lines allow the colour to shine in all its vibrancy and, best of all, it comes as a set of two. *zanui.com.au*

06: SHOT OF COLOUR
We love the porcelain range from MUD Australia. When coloured, these understated pieces add subtle flair to any kitchen. The cereal bowl, medium carafe and jug are just a sample. *mudaustralia.com*

07: EAT WELL
Noritake's casual dinner set, Contempo Amarillo, is all about quality. The fine bone china collection fuses contemporary shapes with vivid colour for a lively effect. *noritakeeshop.com.au*

08: SAY HELLO
This minimalist, typographic print is part of a larger series by Sydney-based design duo Me and Amber. The addition of orange adds playfulness and spirit to something that could otherwise be considered plain. *indie.com.au*

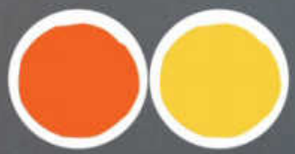
09: FRINGE BENEFITS
A unique take on animal print creates the perfect canvas for stunning vibrant yellow hues. Crafted with care, each cushion is screen printed by hand on pure linen and finished with a fringed trim. *thedesignhunter.com.au*

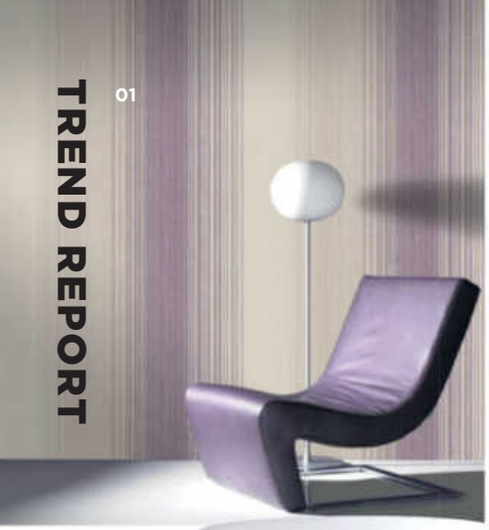
10: SUNNY SIDE UP
Brighten up your space with the Offset Bop table — a functional piece of art that can be used as a bedside table, occasional table or next to the sofa. Available in a range of colours and shades, we especially love the bright orange. *aerodesigns.com.au*

Styling by Claudia Kozub
Photography by Melanie Jenkins, Flash Studios

YELLOW

Grey is the perfect neutral backdrop for offsetting splashes of zesty citrus tones such as yellow and orange for a stunning, colour-popping effect. Here, yellow chairs vary in colour and style while the plates display a rich diversity of orange hues. Resene's Adrenalin (orange) and Wild Thing (yellow) are standouts. *resene.com.au*




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01: LINE UP
Wonderfully subtle, the Chambray Stripe Thistle wallpaper from Graham & Brown can be hung vertically or horizontally and is an innovative, artful example of how to add texture, depth and warmth to your walls. *grahambrown.com*

02: IN BLOOM
A sheer glass vase that's lightly coloured creates a smart and sophisticated effect. A wave-textured top adds to the overall look while the wide opening allows you to feature more of your favourite blooms. *zanui.com.au*

03: VINTAGE VIXEN
Velvety soft upholstery in a rich, luxurious purple hue makes the Phoebe bedroom chair perfect for a budding boudoir. Glam up an empty corner or sit it right in front of your vanity. *sweetpeaandwillow.com*

04: SEASONED PIECES
The modern yet slightly abstract design of the Modi rug is evocative of a house furnished with unique and eclectic pieces collected en route by their well-travelled owner. *therugest.com*

05: FINAL TOUCHES
Add a dash of cool and instant colour to your home with the Harley side table in purple. Keep it uncluttered to allow the bright hue to liven up the room. *zanui.com.au*

06: HIGH & DRY
Dry off with the Royal Splendour bath sheets from Canningvale. Generously sized at 90cm x 160cm, these soft, highly absorbent towels will wrap right around you. *canningvale.com*

07: GET LOST
The *Holding Patterns* canvas print from United Artworks is a unique image that would undoubtedly add intrigue to your walls. This captivating melange of blues and purples will have you mesmerised. *unitedartworks.net*

08: BALLET BEAUTIFUL
This sheet set features two different linen weights, setting it apart from myriad other options on the market. Shown here in ballet, the top sheet is a lighter, refined linen for ultimate comfort, while the pillowcases and fitted sheet are slightly heavier to withstand body weight. *inthesac.com.au*

09: DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH
Breathe some life into a dull corner in need of a revamp with the diamond-shaped succulent planter from Indie Art & Design — perfect for the home office, windowsill or corner cabinet. *indie.com.au*

10: NEAT & TIDY
For a modern update to any kitchen, look to this six-tier metal stand from Artisanti. The rich purple, ornate cast-aluminium shelves introduce a decorative element to this functional piece. *artisanti.com*

11: FEELING FADED
There's something to be said about an ombré effect, gradations of colour that are both unassuming yet completely absorbing. The mouth-blown glass base of the Jamal lamp fades from clear to dark amethyst, while the white microfibre shade keeps the focus on the colour. *arteriorshome.com*

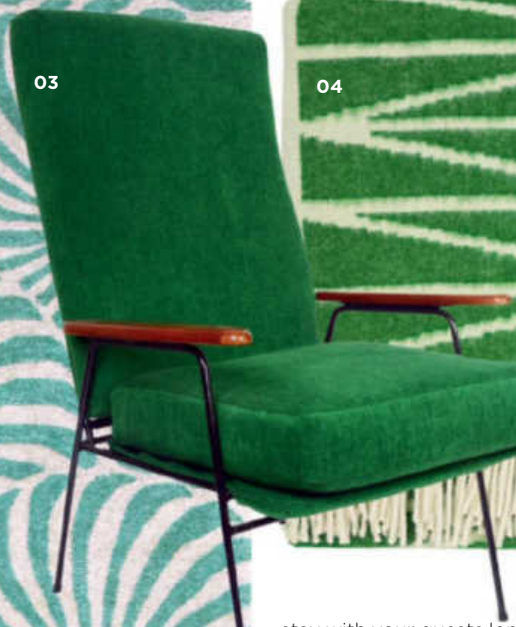
Bree Leech & Heather Nette King for
Dulux Colour Forecast 2015
Photography by Lisa Cohen

PURPLE

Pretty as a picture, pastels speak to our sweeter, softer side. The calming aesthetic of pale purples, pinks and blues are ideally suited to a bedroom, reading room, nursery or study. This room shows Wild Phlox and Stately Frills.
dulux.com.au













01: PATTERN PLAY
Light and bright, the gorgeous green Plume rug from The Rug Collection will instantly add character to your home. The cream contrast ensures it's not overbearing. *therugcollection.com.au*

02: ADAPTATIONS
These bestial vases from Have You Met Miss Jones take animal print to the next level. With a bold colour teamed with two even bolder prints, these are not going to sit unnoticed in the background. *haveyoumetmissjones.com.au*

03: JEWEL TONES
Light, bright and oozing '50s glam, the image of this retro chair will stay with your guests long after they've left. A simple metal frame and unassuming wooden armrests allow the rich emerald green to remain the hero. *fentonandfenton.com.au*

04: PEAS, PLEASE
Designed by Swedish company Brita Sweden and traditionally hand-woven in Lithuania, the 100 per cent wool, delightfully soft Helmi rug in pea green is available in Australia from Habitat Home. *habitathomecollection.com.au*

05: LION'S DEN
The design of Ash Allen's Lionheart stool came about by exploring the idea of curved folds in paper. In lieu of welding, 1.6mm expanded steel mesh is folded and bolted, with hemmed edges adding strength and ensuring safety. *catapultdesign.net.au*

06: WASTE NOT, WANT NOT
Fun, decorative and practical, this wire basket from The Hunted is the perfect way to add subtle colour to your interiors. Use as a wastepaper basket, plant holder or decorative feature. *thehuntedco.com*

07: MUSICAL CHAIRS
A moulded polyurethane foam seat with a solid ash frame combine to give the Slope chair by Wrong for Hay a modest, clean look. *cultdesign.com.au*

08: IN THE ROUND
Fine-grade velvet champions this round penny cushion by Castle. A double-piped top and bottom with a 3cm wall and 37cm diameter make this cushion the perfect size and shape to break up the standard square options. *castleandthings.com.au*



09: SOFT LANDING
Five bright colours are screen printed by hand onto this 100 per cent Belgian linen pillow cover by Castle — the perfect accent piece for your living room. *castleandthings.com.au*



Taubmans

GREEN

Not for the faint-hearted, Peacock Green and Royal Peacock from Taubmans are bold colour choices for your walls. Team them with red, yellow and blue accents for a tropical-inspired room. Alternatively, a feature wall will still give you that strong look on a slightly more subdued scale.
taubmans.com.au

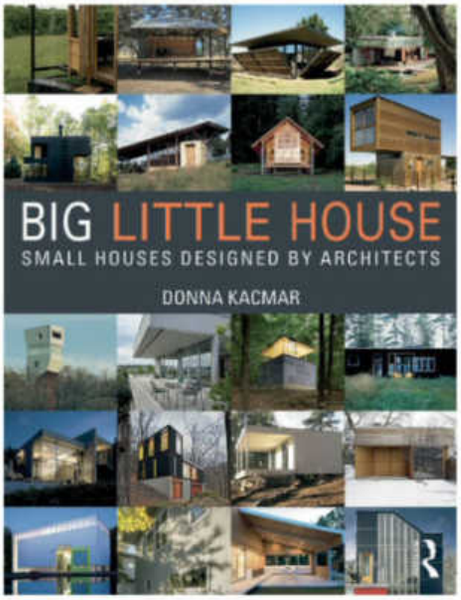




BOOK CLUB

EDITED BY // HOLLY CUNNEEN

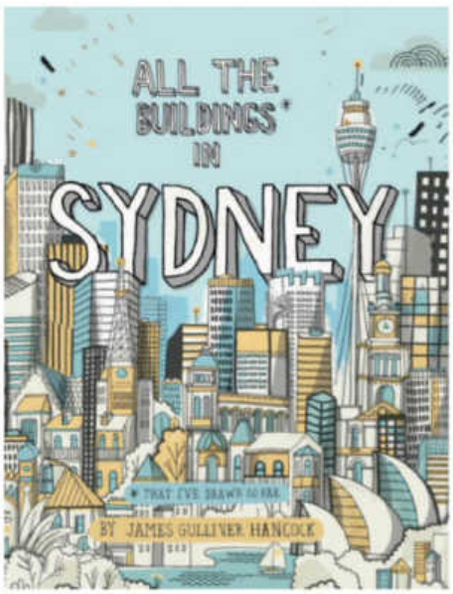
FURNITECTURE
ANNA YUDINA | THAMES & HUDSON | $29.95
Furnitecture is a visual dictionary of the overlap between furniture and architecture from co-founder and editor-in-chief of *Monitor* magazine, Anna Yudina. In one of the most innovative fields of design, architects and designers are discovering new ways of interacting with the spaces we inhabit. The distinction between extra-large pieces of furniture and extra-small buildings are being blurred, and Anna has meticulously curated more than 200 examples of furniture-cum-architecture. As essential reading for students and industry alike, *Furnitecture* is broken up into three chapters. The first revolves around furniture that experiments with structure — think bookshelves testing their centre of gravity. Following that, freestanding pieces are contrasted against in-built furniture, which frees up space in the middle of the room. And, finally, a synthesis is explored between the two ideals, where room and furniture are one.



BIG LITTLE HOUSE
DONNA KACMAR | ROUTLEDGE | $49.95
From decluttering to downsizing, the popularity of the small house is ever increasing. So Donna Kacmar, a practising and award-winning architect, brings us *Big Little House* — 20 real-life examples of small houses less than 100m^2. Drawing on her professional background in architecture, she is able to convey the challenges architects face when working with spatial limitations, while interviews with the original architects add a new depth of knowledge to the articles accompanying each home. Contrary to popular belief, small houses aren't merely a response to monetary constraints, but are increasingly becoming a statement in their own right. Donna touches on a number of different factors influencing the rise in popularity of the small home. Affordability and changing lifestyles are of course major factors, as is the desire for a reduction lifestyle in contrast to a consumption-fuelled lifestyle. There is significant architectural power in the small house, which is not to be overlooked or dismissed.



WINDSOR SMITH HOMEFRONT: DESIGN FOR MODERN LIVING
WINDSOR SMITH WITH GWYNETH PALTROW | RIZZOLI | $95
Named by *Veranda* magazine as one of the top 25 design influencers of their time, Windsor Smith has released her long-awaited debut book, *Windsor Smith Homefront*. Her aspirational interior designs fill the book and evoke nostalgia for time-honoured traditions such as enjoying breakfast in the sunroom or retreating to the drawing room. But for Windsor, it's about so much more than just a great-looking interior. For her, interior design needs to consider the purpose of the house — who lives there and what their lifestyle entails. Rather than blindly settling for what's on trend, Windsor implores her clients to consider their daily routine and relay it back in detail. She realised early on how floor plans and design can be used to bring people together and enhance space. As Gwyneth Paltrow, a friend and client says, Windsor's "talent [is] not only artistic, it [is] intuitive".



All the Buildings in Sydney

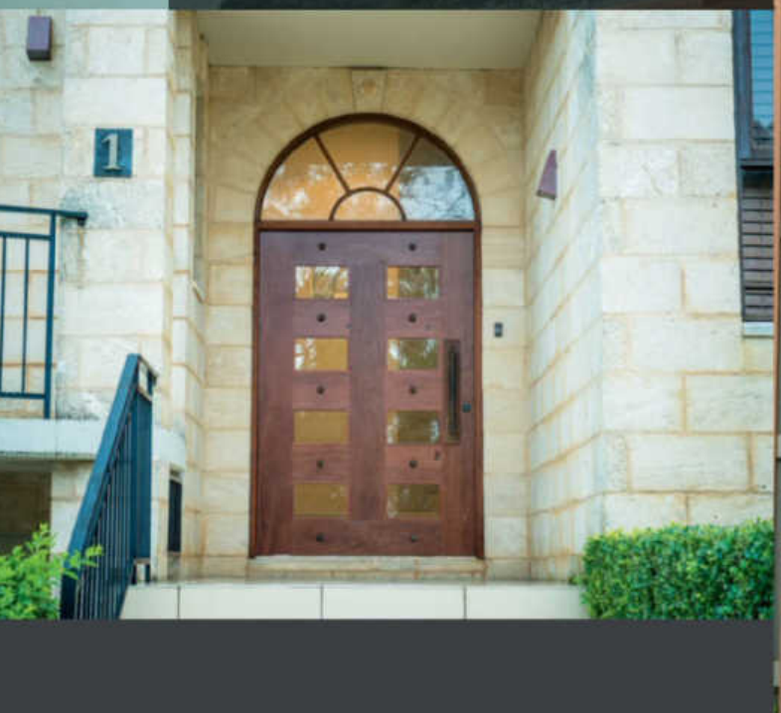
JAMES GULLIVER HANCOCK | HARDIE GRANT BOOKS | $29.95

Organised by suburb, *All the Buildings in Sydney* features a diverse range of cityscape illustrations from celebrated artist and illustrator, James Gulliver Hancock. For James, his creative talents have taken him all over the world doing what he loves — drawing projects along with many wonderful people. But it's his personal projects, such as this one and its predecessor, *All the Buildings in New York* that have been the most rewarding. Not in the least bit confined by Sydney's landmark buildings, James researched the city by mining through other people's lives and living experiences. Look out for the off-beat facts about the buildings scribbled around his drawings in this self-proclaimed diary to the city, which puts the spotlight on Sydney and all its charm.

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IN PROFILE

INTRODUCING THE CREATIVE FORCES IN THE ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN WORLD









Marylou Sobel

With 30 years' experience under her belt, Marylou Sobel is an interior designer with a unique and worldly perspective



INTERIOR DESIGNER

A leader in the design industry, Marylou Sobel takes inspiration from the world around her. However, she does have a few favourite things that particularly inspire her. The sculptural designs of Guy Buseyne (namely, *Forever*), Henry Moore and Mieke Deweerdt (*Mother and Child*) move her and speak to her love of organic materials and textures. Architecture, particularly that of the 1920s, the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and sumptuous fabrics and French furniture (especially when combined) all get her creative juices flowing. Of course, travel is important, both her professional and personal quests, and she lists New Forest in the UK as one of her favourite places.

A common theme in her designs is authenticity, which is true of her overall design ethic and style. She pays the utmost respect to her clients and their individual needs, the materials she works with, the pieces she chooses and, of course, to herself as a designer. A trademark of her work is the skilled application of fabrics, textures and patterns, as well as her use of layering and awareness of proportions.

As for the future of design, Marylou believes it is bright, indeed. She attributes this to the fact that clients and designers are being more adventurous and taking more risks, with much of this courtesy of the expansion of social media into the design sphere, which has made new ideas, trends and products more widely disseminated and accessible.

One emerging theme close to the designer's heart is sustainability. Though they have been part of her design approach for years, repurposed, recycled, local and low-carbon-footprint products are today being more widely and more often used. To Marylou, this is a very positive change.

Of course, some things never change, which she also loves. Case in point is the kitchen. It always has and always will remain the heart of the home, which the designer says is a very good thing. *marylousobel.com.au*

Portrait photography: Marian Riabic



She pays the utmost respect to her clients and their individual needs, the materials she works with, the pieces she chooses and, of course, to herself as a designer

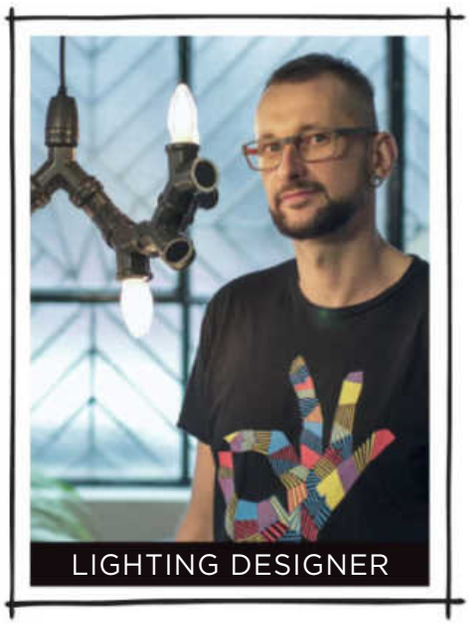






Volker Haug

German-born and Melbourne-based designer, Volker Haug brings a new shine to lighting



The one-off artisanal creations of lighting designer Volker Haug achieve far more than the luminous transformation of the spaces they inhabit. Much like the metaphorical bulb that pops with the impetus of a new idea, they hint at the sublime vision through which Volker perceives his world. He has cemented this reputation in the international design landscape with accessible products that brim with unique personality.

The German-born designer has been innately drawn to lighting like a moth to the flame since childhood. This gravitational pull has developed into a professional practice that is typified by a colourful yet industrial and sometimes minimalist aesthetic. From the aptly named Sole Trader to the OMG! Shade, Volker is a scavenger of sorts, taking his material inspirations from junk shops to salvage yards.

The Volker Haug studio and showroom in Melbourne's East Brunswick is the beating heart of his practice, which is open to anyone keen to experience the wonder and delight of the designer's work. "My work is not limited to my current product ranges," says Volker. "I am passionate about designing unique and one-off pieces, so if someone has something specific in mind or if they have no idea where to start and need some inspiration, I can help."



Volker's work is distinctive in style and often features an unexpected material palette, resulting in an industrial, minimal and playful aesthetic.

The latest range comprises an elegant palette of metallic finishes with unexpected twists to the minimal forms, marking a definite progression from the bright and colourful aesthetic for which he is known. His new capsule of designs utilises the latest in LED technology while still being handcrafted by his team of artisans in the East Brunswick studio. *volkerhaug.com*















Fiona Spence

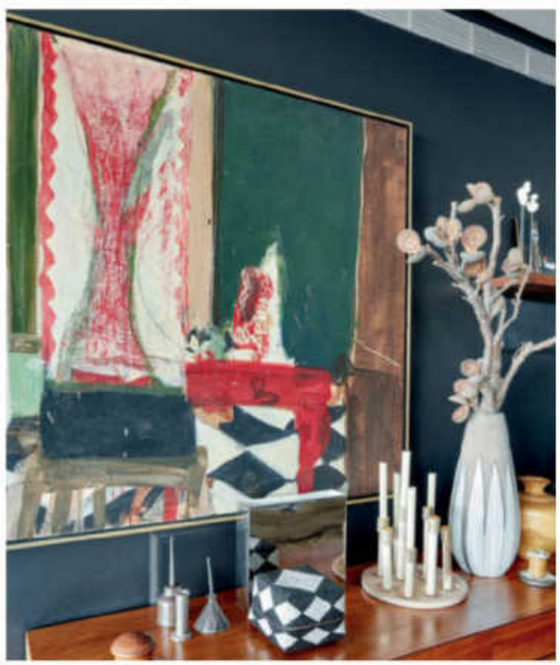
Spence & Lyda is the brainchild of Fiona Spence — a designer with an impeccable eye for detail and a passion for quality homewares



INTERIOR DESIGNER

Fiona Spence is a woman of many talents. In her pre-Spence & Lyda life, her many hats included production designer, art director and costume designer for more than 20 years. Beginning her career in the fashion realm, Fiona spent much of her time trotting around the globe, garnering inspiration from the many colourful cultures the world's cities offer. However, she soon found herself being drawn to the grungy architecture of Los Angeles, which ultimately prompted her to set up shop upon her return to Australia. "The Rose Bowl flea market in Pasadena became a source of inspiration to me, as did the modernist architecture in the Hollywood Hills," says Fiona.

Initially establishing Spence & Lyda in an 89m² space, the store has since expanded to a new showroom in Sydney's design hub of Surry Hills. And it's safe to say this new location reflects Fiona's attention to detail and aim to provide all that a typical household needs to add some style to the home. Stocking brands such as Italian powerhouse Missoni Home along with Autoban, Matthew Hilton and Modernica, Spence & Lyda is the go-to mecca for budding designers to inject some pizazz into their projects.



Sitting at the helm of such an established brand is no easy feat, but for Fiona, the constant pool of inspiration provided by her career is more than enough reason to continue doing what she does best — providing quality design for our most important asset: the home.
spenceandlyda.com.au

Portrait photography: Marian Riabic Words: Annabelle Cloros



"I like to use textiles as wall coverings wherever I can. They have so much more to offer than wallpaper, specifically in the way they interact with light and the added layering effects they offer"



Grace Wood

Going against the grain to create products made with her own hands, Grace Wood's touch is just what the earth needs



TEXTILE DESIGNER

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS

When it comes to inspiring Australian landscapes, the Blue Mountains hits the nail on the head — and that's where Grace Wood's design studio resides. With an abundance of local beauty surrounding her, it's easy to see where the influence of fluidity in her designs comes from.

"I studied a Bachelor of Design through the College of Fine Arts at the University of New South Wales, during which I interned with Dutch fibre artist Claudy Jongstra for four months in the Netherlands," says Grace. "I returned home and decided I wanted to work for myself creatively. But it had to be in a way that felt uncompromising to my values and true to what I believe in."

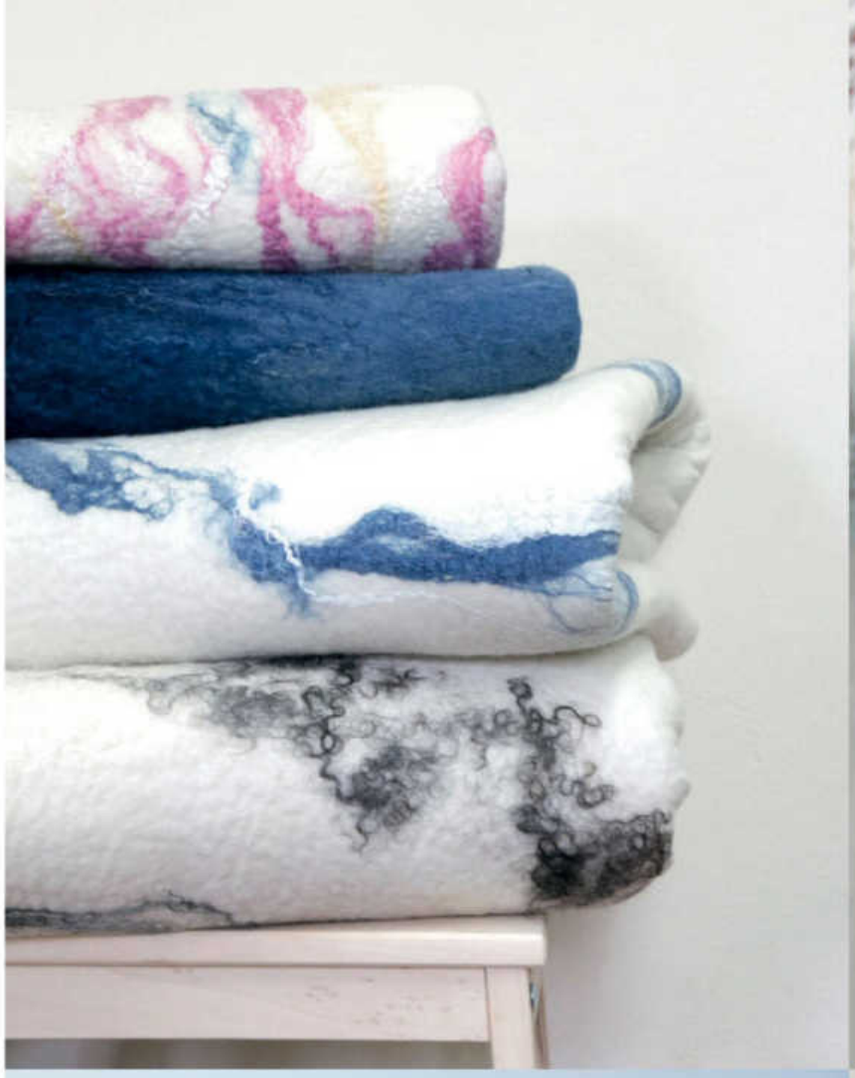
All of Grace's creations are produced using natural materials such as merino wool from her family's sheep farm in Clear Creek and include a range of cushion covers, bed linen and scarves. A deep connection between her heritage and work is present, and remaining true to her values is something she prides herself on.

"My designs are made by hand and I use natural fibres such as linen, silk, alpaca, mohair, corriedale and merino to create felt-based textiles," says Grace. "It's important to me to create work that will be treasured and cared for, and at the end of its life will break down and become part of the earth that it came from. My process is slow and a conscious reaction against mass production and over-consumption."

Combining traditional techniques with a contemporary edge, Grace's favourite designs include the Peace Out wall hanging, the Witching Hour cushion cover and a new range of scarves. "The Witching Hour cushion cover style is one of the first I made," says Grace. "Although it is made with warm, soft, natural fibres, there's a darkness to the imagery and I like that coexisting tension. I like imagery that is intriguing and has an element of mystery."

In a world where handmade products are rapidly decreasing, it's designers such as Grace Wood who are focused on not only remaining true to a specific vision, but producing beautiful and sustainable products that pay credit to the earth they sprung from.

gracewooddesigns.com









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HOUSES

62: TV HOUSE: YACKANDANDAH SAWMILL HOUSE
76: BIG LITTLE HOUSE
90: MILL HOUSE
104: POZNIAK BEACH HOUSE
118: SUPERPOD

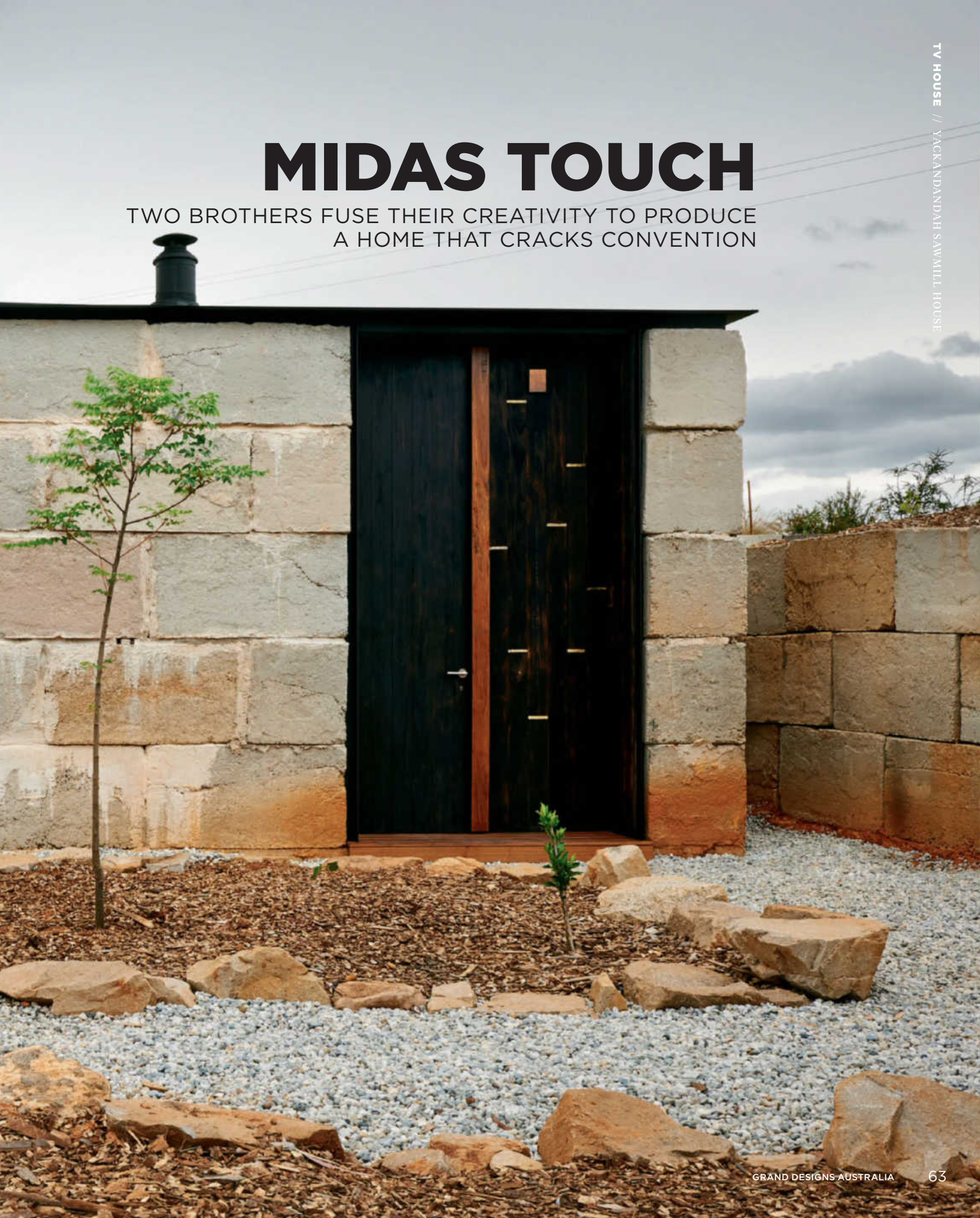


Project: Yackandandah Sawmill House **Photography:** Emma Cross **Architect:** Chris Gilbert, Archier



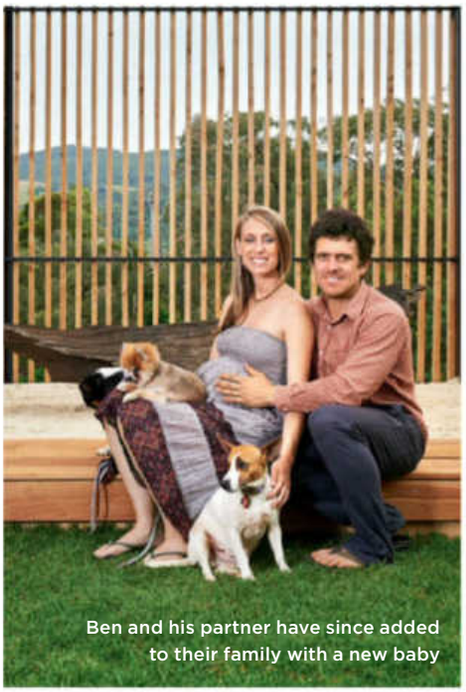
MIDAS TOUCH

TWO BROTHERS FUSE THEIR CREATIVITY TO PRODUCE A HOME THAT CRACKS CONVENTION



DETAILS

HOUSE YACKANDANDAH SAWMILL HOUSE
LOCATION YACKANDANDAH, VICTORIA
DATE COMMENCED AUGUST 2012
DATE COMPLETED NOVEMBER 2014
COST $250,000



Ben and his partner have since added to their family with a new baby



Giant tracks make the roof retractable



Open to the elements, this home is at one with the environment

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS
PHOTOGRAPHY // EMMA CROSS

When it comes to talented genes, some families just get lucky. In this case, brothers Chris and Ben Gilbert hit the jackpot when it came to creating a home that refused to quit. Sculptor sibling Ben secured a 100-year-old ex-goldmine and sawmill that was also used as a tip, proving one man's trash is another man's treasure — or new house, in this case.

Originally just using his studio on the property, Ben persuaded the council to approve a caretaker's house nearby. "Legally, it's a caretaker's residence as it sits on industrial land near my sculpture studio," says Ben. "It took some fancy footwork to get planning permission and, oddly, correspondence with the government of Qatar, but that's a long story ..." Given the green light to commence the project, architect Chris took a 12-month sabbatical to design the home — but the cantilevered property was created without plans, much to the dismay of *GDA*'s Peter Maddison.

With a tiny 100m² to work with, the brief revolved around creating a one-

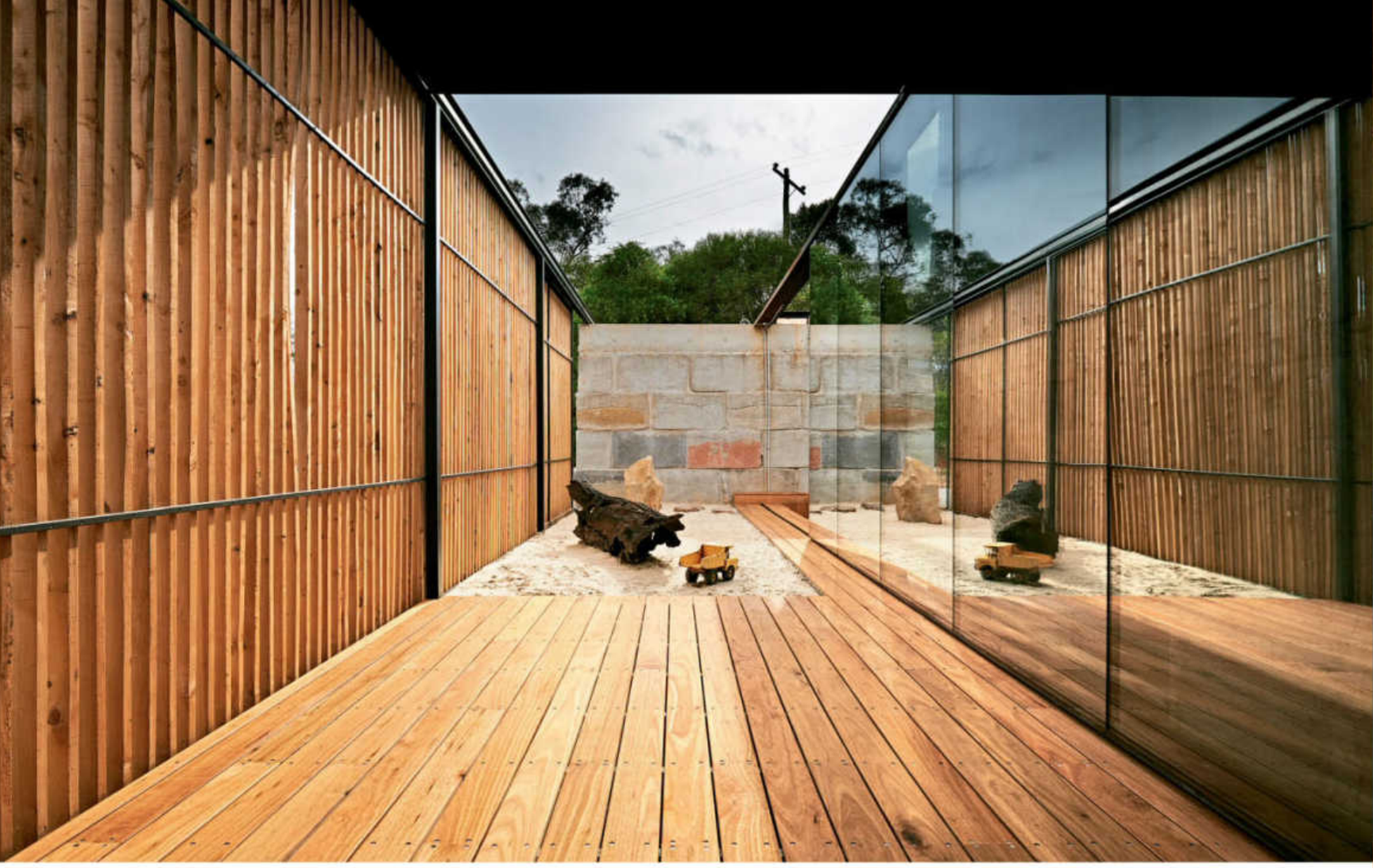


An open living area overlooks a picturesque view

WORDS OF WISDOM "GET ON WITH IT AND UNDERSTAND THERE'S A LINEAGE TO BUILDING MATERIALS BASED ON WHAT'S EASY FOR A HUMAN TO LIFT. IN THIS AGE OF MACHINES, WE FIND OURSELVES ABLE TO QUESTION THAT LINEAGE" — BEN GILBERT

"THE YACKANDANDAH HOUSE WAS A RARE GIFT — A GRAND DESIGN IN EVERY SENSE OF THE CONCEPT. TWO BROTHERS — ONE AN ARCHITECT AND THE OTHER AN ARTIST — BOTH APPRECIATED THE SKILLS AND ABILITIES OF THE OTHER, BUT AT THE SAME TIME, STRUGGLED WITH THOSE DIFFERENCES WHEN IT CAME TO INCORPORATING THEIR DESIGN IDEAS IN THE HOUSE. BEN AND CHRIS TOOK US ON AN ARCHITECTURAL ROLLER COASTER, TURNING WHAT WAS A BIG EXPERIMENT INTO ONE OF THE MOST TRULY INSPIRING HOUSES WE'VE EVER COVERED"
— *GRAND DESIGNS AUSTRALIA*'S EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, ANNA GREGORY





"IT IS A CLEAR EXAMPLE OF WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH A LOAD OF WASTE CONCRETE. THIS COULD HAVE BEEN LESS EXPENSIVE WITH MORE PLANNING AND EXPERIENCE, BUT THE PROCESS WE USED DISCOVERED SOMETHING — ANYONE CAN BUILD" — BEN GILBERT

ABOVE A courtyard can be sectioned off or opened up thanks to the track system

TOP RIGHT Glistening walls and cabinetry play off against the floor-to-ceiling timber

BOTTOM RIGHT A number of the furniture pieces were handcrafted by Ben

bedroom residence that was sustainable and left a small footprint. A strong relationship with the natural surrounding environment was also critical, given the property cantilevers over the edge of an old dam. Walls constructed of gargantuan recycled concrete blocks were a big risk that luckily paid off — but achieving perfection wasn't the goal for this build. The interior of the property is clad with milled local timber from fallen trees that succumbed to a storm in 2005, which nature-lover Ben was hesitant to use.

The huge tracks that carry the moving aspects of the home really play up its uniqueness. Completely handmade by the brothers, the house contains a one-tonne, 9-metre-long motor-driven door, a 14-metre operable veranda, a roof that opens and a 4 x 3m manual pivot on the east side. "We made all the mechanical systems from scratch," says Ben. "The big moving doors, veranda and external screen allow the building to respond to the environment. They are like huge branches our ancestors could sweep from the cave entrance. Making big things move on a small building is the real gem."

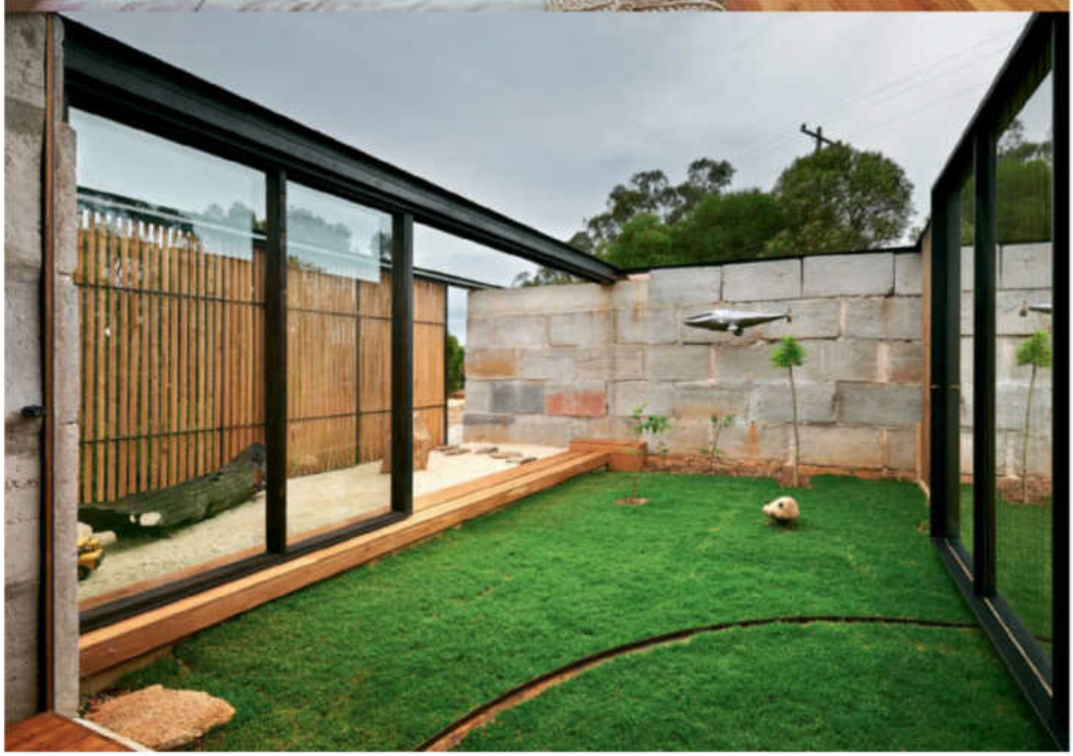
Like all families, dynamics constantly change, especially when there's no concrete plan set in place. "Being brothers with different approaches to design was mostly an excellent adventure, but it was testing for both parties," admits Ben. "I still struggle to love the box gutter for the headaches it caused, and I know the building would have been less expensive if it hadn't had a good dose of Chris' unbending idealism."

As there were basically no plans to follow, changes were imminent for this free-flowing build. "We cut out a central structural column to achieve the 9-metre-span northern view after a discussion with our engineer," says Ben. "It really improves the machine feel and focus of the building, and Chris loves near-impractical structures." Taking on the responsibility of handcrafting everything from furniture to tracks and









LEFT The bedroom features a large glass door that ensures the small space is filled with light

LEFT BELOW Sculpturist Ben created the whale and bug pieces found in the courtyard

OPPOSITE TOP Chris and Ben stand proudly in their unique creation

OPPOSITE BOTTOM Overlooking a dam, the organic appearance of the structure is striking but coherent with its surrounds

WE LOVE THE ENCLOSED COURTYARD THAT CAN BE OPENED UP OR CLOSED OFF FROM THE MACHINE-OPERATED DOOR

even bathroom basins meant time was definitely an obstacle as things had to be redone at least once. "It is a clear example of what you can do with a load of waste concrete. This could have been less expensive with more planning and experience, but the process we used discovered something — anyone can build."

As one of three rural and unusual projects featured on *Grand Designs Australia* TV, the Yackandandah Sawmill House definitely fits the brief. Now occupied by Ben, his partner and their infant son, the house brims with a unique character that embodies the vision, sweat and hard work of two brothers.

PROJECT TEAM

Architect Chris Gilbert, Archier *(archier.com.au)*
Builders Chris and Ben Gilbert
Interior designers
Chris and Ben Gilbert

MATERIALS

Brass sheet George White & Co (*georgewhite.com.au*; 03 9544 1100)
Concrete blocks
Baxters Concrete (02 6056 4622)
Glass Reflex Glass (*reflexglass.com.au*; 03 5721 3533)
Plywood Carter Holt Harvey (*chhwoodproducts.com.au*; 132 321)
Sustainable timber for flooring, ceiling and windows
Corsair Timbers (*corsairsustainabletimbers.com.au*; 02 6027 1860)
Slab insulation Clinka (*clinka.com.au*; 0411 588 603)

FURNISHINGS

Sculpture and metal work
Agency of Sculpture, Ben Gilbert (*agencyofsculpture.com*; 0437 255 833)

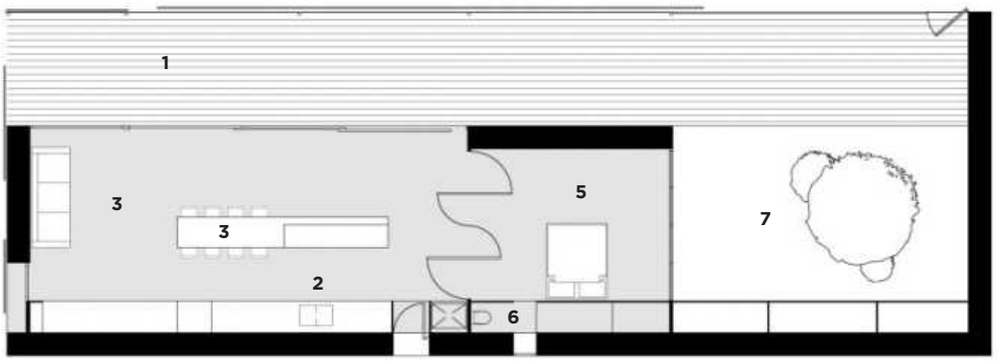
LIGHTING

Archier (*archier.com.au*; 0424 956 318)

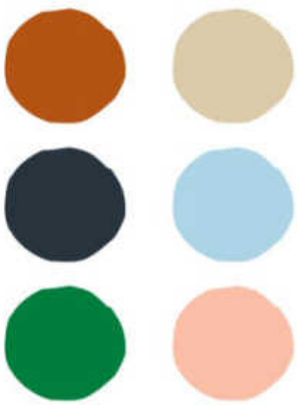
LEGEND

1 DECK
2 KITCHEN
3 DINING
4 LOUNGE ROOM
5 BEDROOM
6 BATHROOM
7 COURTYARD





FLOOR PLAN



Colour Palette

At one with the natural landscape, the look is all about timber, stone and metal. Gorgeous steel beams and the glitter of the metal in the kitchen offset the sandstone, timber and greenery. Blue highlights in the furnishings provide a hint of sky















Get the Look

01: Puku ottoman from ***cocoflip.com.au*** **02:** LEDlux Nord Up/Down pendant in teak from ***beaconlighting.com.au*** **03:** Whale sculpture from ***agencyofsculpture.com*** **04:** Resurrection Aromatique Hand Wash from ***aesop.com*** **05:** Black aluminium Eames chair from ***livingedge.com.au*** **06:** Cashmere cable-knit throw from ***hickoryhillhome.com*** **07:** Philipp Mainzer Calle bench from ***e15.com*** **08:** Hide from ***arthide.com.au*** **09:** Sentinel pillow from ***coralandtusk.com*** **10:** Recycled teak dining table from ***livingelements.com.au***





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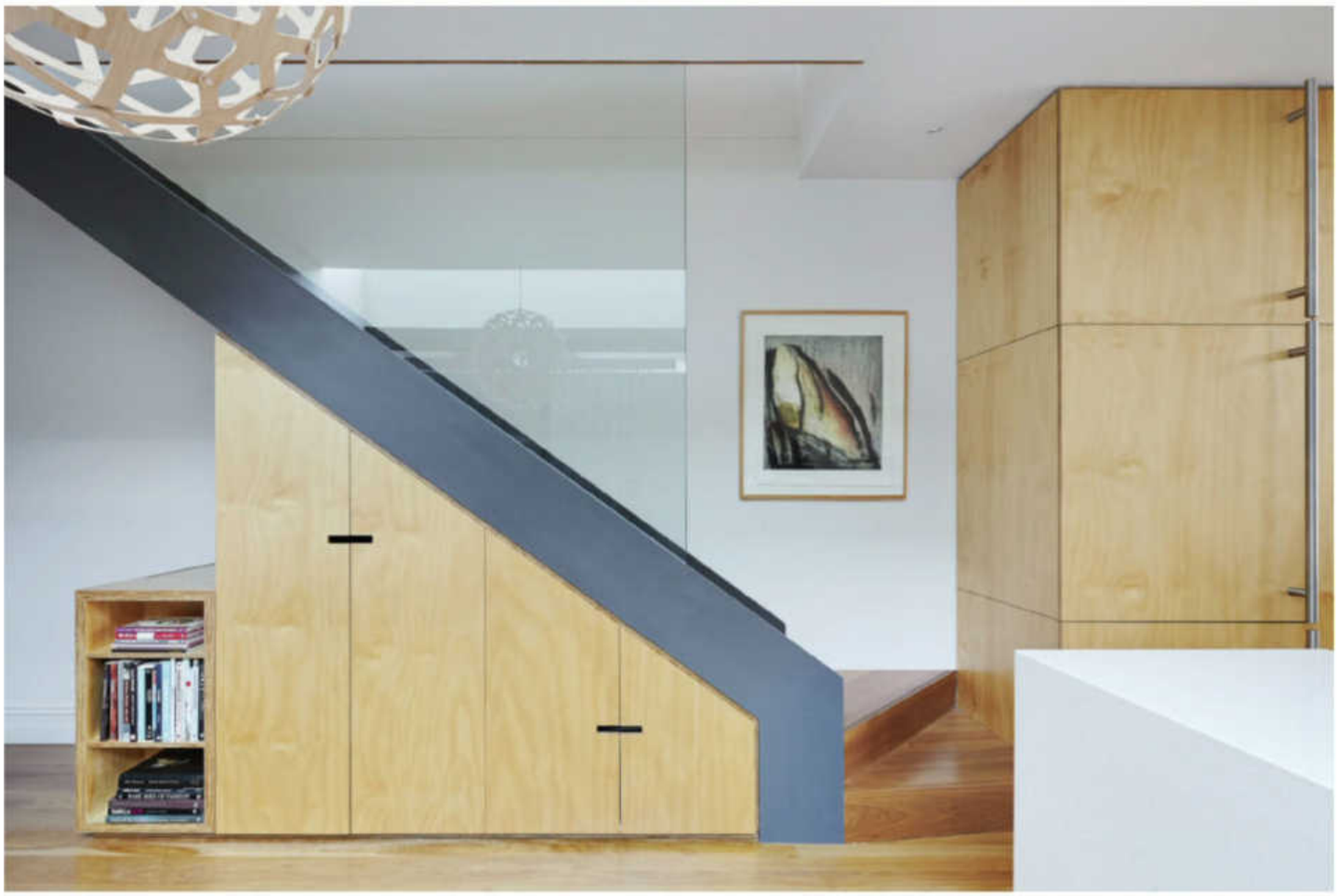
Enviro Plumb Pty Ltd
4 Olinda Avenue
City Beach 6015 WA
08 6500 0645





SUPERSIZE ME

SOMETIMES, YOU'VE JUST GOT TO MAKE THE MOST OF WHAT YOU'VE GOT — AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED FOR A SMALL HOME THAT'S BIG IN HEART



DETAILS

HOUSE BIG LITTLE HOUSE
LOCATION FITZROY NORTH, VICTORIA
DATE COMMENCED JULY 2012
DATE COMPLETED NOVEMBER 2013

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS
PHOTOGRAPHY // CHRISTINE FRANCIS

When you're dealing with a terrace, the words "historic", "classic" and "small" are often some of the first to spring to mind. These Victorian- and Edwardian-era properties are no doubt beautiful, unrivalled pieces of architecture. But size is something they're simply lacking, with a measly 5m x 26m your average size.

For a family of four, a two-bedroom North Fitzroy home can fuel a never-ending game of hide-and-seek, where a moment of quiet contemplation just doesn't exist. Enter Nic Owen Architects, the firm tasked with boosting this two-bedroom un-renovated gem into a functioning family home that preserves its roots. "The client was after more space,

WE LOVE FLOOR-TO-CEILING TIMBER CABINETRY — A CLEVER DESIGN FEATURE THAT'S IDEAL FOR STORAGE AND EASY ON THE EYE

ABOVE Integrating storage into a staircase is a great way to keep the home neat and tidy
BELOW A traditional terrace hides its modern interior all too well

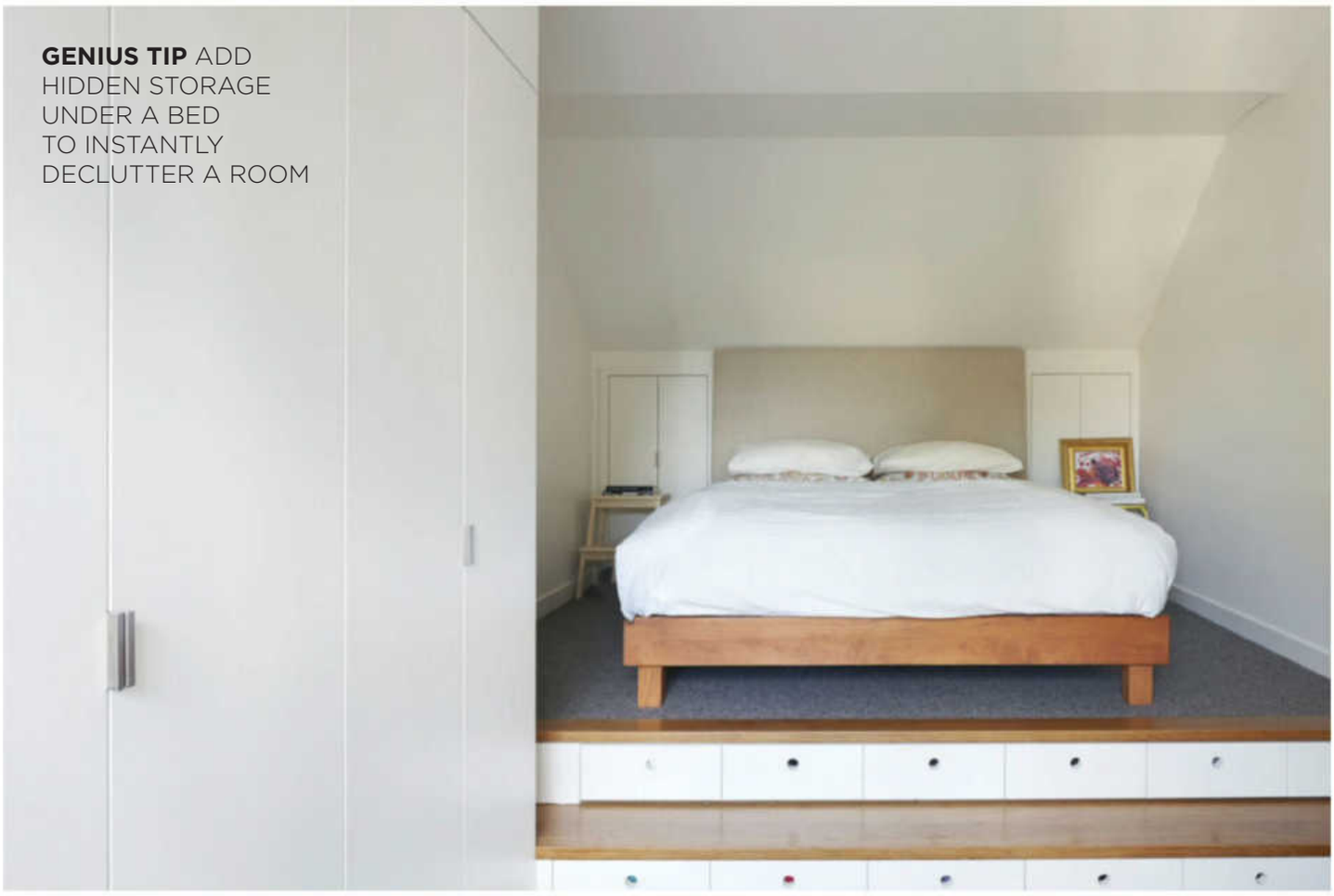






TO MAKE A SMALL HOME FEEL AS BIG AS POSSIBLE, UTILISING NATURAL LIGHT AND A NEUTRAL COLOUR PALETTE IS PARAMOUNT





GENIUS TIP ADD HIDDEN STORAGE UNDER A BED TO INSTANTLY DECLUTTER A ROOM

TO CONQUER THE SPACE ISSUE AND INCREASE LIGHT, VAULTED CEILINGS ON THE GROUND AND FIRST FLOORS WERE USED — A CLEVER WAY TO STRETCH THE AREA WITHOUT IMPACTING ON THE OTHER BUILDINGS IN THE STREET

a larger living area, updated facilities and a better connection to their backyard," says architect, Nic Owen. "They have two young children and were outgrowing their current dwelling."

With an extension on the cards, the renovation had to be clearly and cleverly thought out to ensure the build didn't jeopardise the neighbours' amenities and access to sunlight. The project also had to "address the historic fabric of the existing built forms including the rear laneway", says Nic.

Doubling in space but not size, the project encompassed adding two extra bedrooms, a bathroom, study and improved access to sunlight and storage. With limited space to work with, the only option was to extend the ground and first floors, which is not as easy as it sounds. "It was problematic as any new works cast shadows over the south neighbours' north-facing living room windows," says Nic. "Careful sunlight and shadow studies were undertaken to define the acceptable external envelope of the new works. The ground-floor southern wall was pitched at a low height and the first floor was set back from the south boundary and kept central along the length of the property."

To conquer the space issue and increase light, vaulted ceilings on the ground and first floors were used — a clever way to stretch the area without impacting on the other buildings in the street. "This increased vertical height gave the opportunity of high windows to capture extended views of neighbouring trees," says Nic. "In line with strict heritage guidelines, all new works are concealed from the street front and hidden behind the existing roof."

BELOW Opting for a neutral white palette makes the bathroom appear larger







A David Trubridge pendant brings an organic element to the room



ABOVE A statement timber staircase injects warmth into the home

PROJECT TEAM

Architect Nic Owen Architects (*nicowenarchitects.com.au*)
Builder Whale Builders (*whalebuilders.com.au*)
Structural engineer John Horan & Associates (03 9836 1717)
Building surveyor Reddo (*reddo.com.au*)

"WE MANAGED TO USE A SINGLE PANEL OF GLASS, WHICH REALLY BRIGHTENS THE SPACE AND PROVIDES GREAT VIEWS" — NIC OWEN

To make a small home feel as big as possible, utilising natural light and a neutral colour palette is paramount. Juxtaposing against the dark exterior of the home, the interior is a different story, filled with timber cabinetry and flooring and encased by white walls. The skylight that runs from the study area above the stairwell plays the starring role in ensuring the home is filled with rays throughout the day. "We managed to use a single panel of glass, which really brightens the space and provides great views," says Nic.

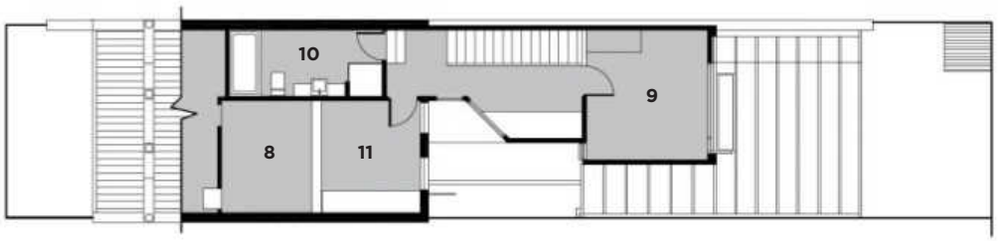
From the back of the property, a fence conceals most of the home, with just a peak of the roof visible from the street. Giving this tiny space a boost wasn't straightforward, but despite its pitfalls, the property is a great example of clever design and thinking outside the square to preserve a historic home with a healthy dose of modernism.

MATERIALS

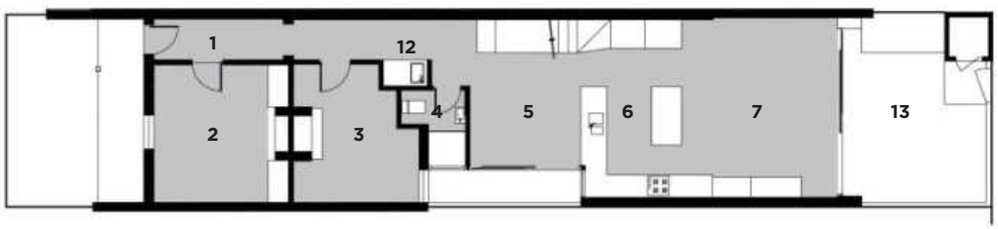
Walls, cladding and roofing Colorbond sheet metal (*colorbond.com*)
Glazing and doors Double-glazed Capral aluminium (*capral.com.au*)
Flooring, stairs and deck Blackbutt timber
Plywood joinery Hoop pine
Tiles Porcelain
Appliances Neff (*neff.com.au*)
Integrated refrigerator Fisher & Paykel (*fisherpaykel.com/au*)
Sink Abey (*abey.com.au*)
Taps Scala (*reece.com.au*)
Basins Caroma Liano (*caroma.com.au*)
Toilets Porcher (*reece.com.au*)
Heated towel rails Hydrotherm (*hydrotherm.com.au*)

LEGEND

1 ENTRY
2 STUDY
3 LOUNGE ROOM
4 BATHROOM
5 DINING ROOM
6 KITCHEN
7 LIVING ROOM
8 BEDROOM
9 BEDROOM
10 BATHROOM
11 SITTING ROOM
12 LAUNDRY
13 COURTYARD



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

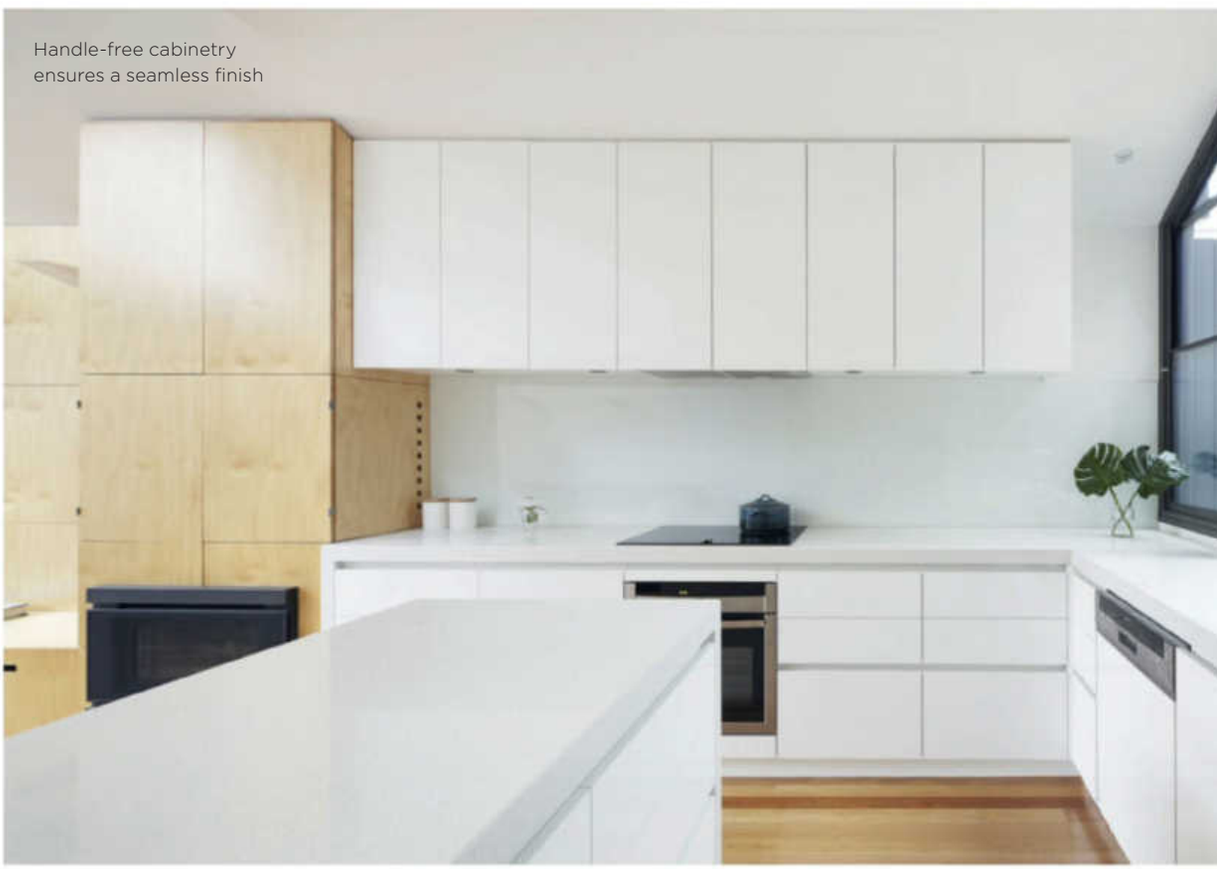


GROUND FLOOR PLAN



Colour Palette

Blonde timber, white walls and the slight green of the glass provide the base colour. Highlights of plum, red and green are seen in the furnishings, but colour is used sparingly. The dark grey of the steel anchors the design



Handle-free cabinetry ensures a seamless finish

Get the Look

SIMPLE IS BEST IN THIS MELBURNIAN HOME

01: David Trubridge pendant from ***davidtrubridge.com*** **02:** Damascus diamond hand-tufted wool rug from ***zanui.com.au*** **03:** Design By Life sideboard from ***zanui.com.au*** **04:** Liberta lounge from ***beyondfurniture.com.au*** **05:** Timber Malmo bedside table from ***downthatlittlelane.com.au*** **06:** Star Anise cushion from ***kushliving.com.au*** **07:** Paper Series vase from ***haydenyoulley.com*** **08:** Isamu Noguchi coffee table from ***spacefurniture.com.au*** **09:** Marble candle holders from ***thedesignhunter.com.au*** **10:** Carly design chair in Floyd Platinum fabric from ***ozdesignfurniture.com.au***

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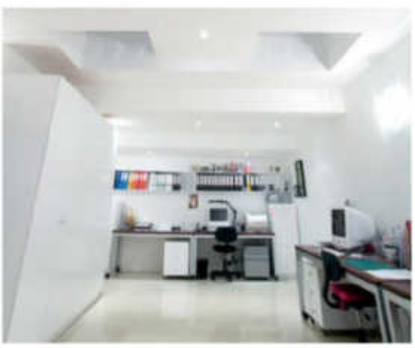
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MINIMALISM AT ITS BEST

OLD MEETS NEW IN ONE OF BALLARAT'S HERITAGE-LISTED GEMS



Glass doors ensure the elements can always be admired

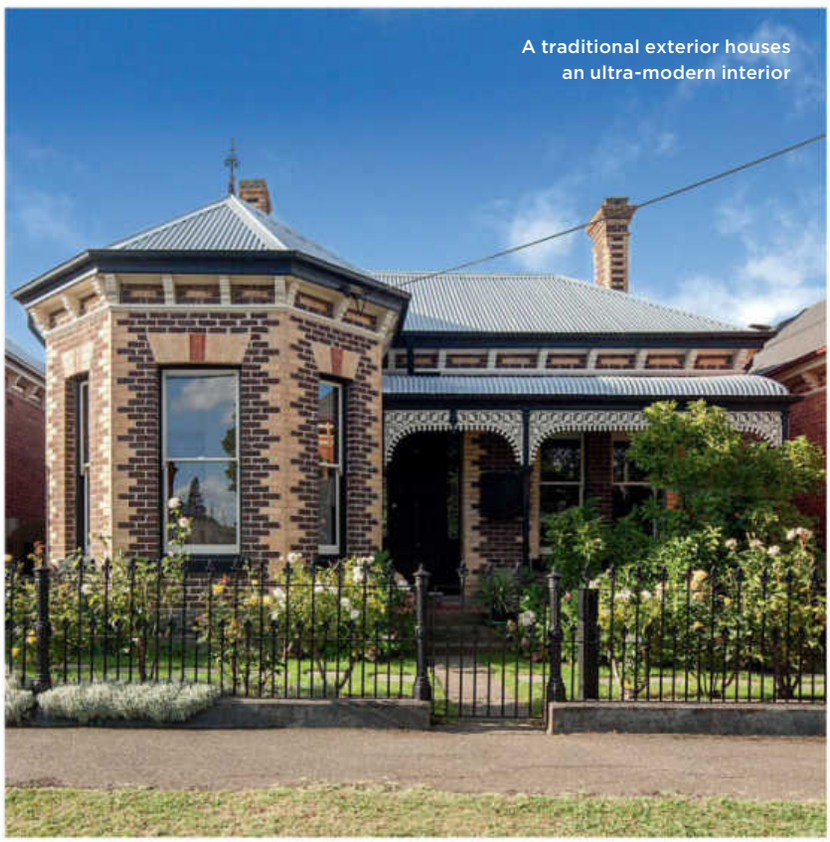
DETAILS

HOUSE MILL HOUSE
LOCATION LAKE WENDOUREE, VICTORIA
DATE COMMENCED AUGUST 2011
DATE COMPLETED JUNE 2012
COST $500,000

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS
PHOTOGRAPHY // HILARY BRADFORD

Enlisting a creative to renovate your home is always a leap of fate. But when your architect happens to be your brother and his wife, a certain collaborative effort is instantly present — which was the case for Pat Moloney and his Ballarat home. Reminiscent of the Victorian era, the red-brick house now fuses its rich history with modern accents, making it a true architectural statement.

For Pat, enlisting the talents of his sibling Mick and his wife Julia was a natural decision, considering their obvious connection and shared admiration of a certain ethos. "I watched my brother closely during his architecture degree and saw the development of his modern style that also respected classic



A traditional exterior houses an ultra-modern interior



WORDS OF WISDOM
"BEFORE YOU BUILD WHAT YOU THINK YOU WANT, LEARN ALL YOU CAN ABOUT DESIGN AND BROADEN YOUR OUTLOOK"
— PAT MOLONEY



"THE ATMOSPHERE WAS INTENDED TO BE STYLISH AND SOPHISTICATED — I WANTED AN 'ARCHITECT' LOOK BUT INSISTED THE HOUSE RETAIN ITS 'BALLARAT-NESS'" — PAT MOLONEY, HOMEOWNER





Natural light floods the kitchen, giving it a sense of freshness

SPLIT UP INTO THREE DISTINCT ELEMENTS — THE WHITE GALLERY WALL, STEEL WINDOWS AND DOORS AND CONCRETE WALL — THE SPACE IS NOTHING SHORT OF CONTEMPORARY

design from the past," says Pat. "In many late-night conversations, I received a design education of my own."

With a brief of adding an open-plan room with a kitchen, dining and living space at the back of the original house, all parties agreed on establishing a difference between the styles of the structures, with the new renovation marking itself as distinctly modern and the old retaining its charm. "I felt it was important the new works were clearly distinguishable as 'non-original' and this was a philosophy the architects shared," says Pat. "The idea of having a traditional house on a street with a modern extension has always appealed to me."

Owning the house since 2007, Pat has since expanded his family from a black Labrador to now a wife and four boys, and soon plans to leave the home and move into a larger property in the same area, also created by Moloney Architects. But, for now, the family is living in the renovated property whose body of work included restoring four original rooms, building a new walk-in robe, master ensuite, family bathroom and laundry along with the addition of a new lounge, kitchen and dining area as well as landscaping, which was undertaken after the renovation process had been completed.

With the new extension revolving around light, polished concrete and steel, it's a stark contrast to the old-world-style cottage. However, shared high ceilings link the spaces together. "We felt too many extensions to heritage properties failed to engage with the original building's sense of scale," says Pat. "We wanted the new spaces to match the building's 3.8-metre ceiling heights, which meant we needed to exceed the boundary height and setback limitations. The architects negotiated with the neighbours, local council and the heritage advisor to achieve a design that feels in proportion to the original structure."

Split up into three distinct elements — the white gallery wall, steel windows and doors and concrete wall — the space is nothing short of contemporary. Artworks by Josh Bowes and David Bromley adorn the walls in the main living area in conjunction with other pieces that are dotted throughout the home. "The idea was to create a neutral backdrop for artworks that included a recessed art hanging system, which allows works to be repositioned without leaving hooks in the wall," says Pat. Natural elements are brought inside thanks to the floor-to-ceiling windows and doors that enable the space to be bathed with warm sunshine — a godsend during Ballarat's notorious winters. A panel of concrete adds an industrial edge to the space and serves as a makeshift art piece that adds texture but doesn't take away from the artworks. "I love polished concrete, white walls and large windows," says Pat. "The atmosphere was intended to be stylish and sophisticated — I wanted an 'architect' look but insisted the house retain its 'Ballarat-ness'."

In terms of environmental considerations, this home is full of pleasant surprises and is a prime example of passive solar design.



ED'S FAVE THE *SCOTCH* CANVAS BY LOCAL VICTORIAN ARTIST JOSH BOWES — A MOODY TALKING PIECE THAT BRINGS A TOUCH OF DARKNESS TO A LIGHT-FILLED SPACE







Sustainability features include low-E double glazing, operable highlight windows with screens for cross-ventilation, R-5.0 Earthwool ceiling insulation, R2.0 Earthwool wall insulation, LED lighting, Enviro300 slab insulation and low-VOC paint and finishes. "The expansive north glass provides solar access and allows the concrete slab to act as effective thermal mass," explains Pat. "The slab re-radiates heat in the evening and maintains a constant internal temperature."

So what's the end result of this design fusion? Two spaces that stand alone but are joined together by a common thread: light. Walking through the house offers a transition from historic to modern, with the two styles holding their own while creating a very special home in the process.

LEFT Bookcases are practical and serve as a design feature
LEFT BELOW The tiling in the bathroom adds a glamorous touch

PROJECT TEAM

Architect
Moloney Architects
(*moloneyarchitects.com.au*; 03 5309 2499)
Structural engineers
TGM Group, Ballarat
(*tgmgroup.com*)

SERVICES

Joinery Andrew Mann Joinery (03 5335 9802)

FIXTURES & FITTINGS

Bathroom tiles Perini (*perini.com.au*)
Steel windows Skyrange Windows (*skyrange.com.au*)
In-slab hydronic heating Hunt Heating (*huntheating.com.au*)
Artwork hanging system Artrack (*artrack.com.au*)
Bathroom products Caroma (*caroma.com.au*); Rogerseller (*rogerseller.com.au*)
Fireplace insert Heatmaster (*heatmaster.com.au*)

FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS

Table Great Dane Furniture (*greatdanefurniture.com.au*)
Sofa Jardan (*jardan.com.au*)
Hans Wegner coffee table Angelucci (*angelucci.net.au*)

LEGEND

1 ENTRY
2 LOUNGE ROOM
3 BEDROOM
4 MASTER BEDROOM
5 WALK-IN ROBE
6 ENSUITE
7 BATHROOM
8 LAUNDRY
9 KITCHEN
10 PANTRY
11 DINING ROOM
12 LIVING ROOM



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

WE LOVE THE RESTORED ORNATE CORNICES, CEILING ROSES AND SKIRTING BOARDS — IT'S ESSENTIAL TO RETAIN ORIGINAL FEATURES WHEN WORKING WITH A PIECE OF ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY



Colour Palette

The feeling here is quite masculine. The base is grey, black, white and beige with strong primary colours mostly coming from the artworks and the foliage seen through the windows. Highlights are dark blue, turquoise, red and burnt orange



















Get the Look

A CLASSIC STYLE WITH MODERN SCANDINAVIAN ELEMENTS INFORM THIS BALLARAT HOME

01: *Scotch* canvas by Josh Bowes from ***joshbowesart.com*** **02:** Mundo chair from ***greatdanefurniture.com*** **03:** Cow hide from ***cowhiderugsonline.com.au*** **04:** Marble Votive by Bloomingville from ***frenchbazaar.com.au*** **05:** Hudson sofa from ***jardan.com.au*** **06:** Ramona planter from ***foxandramona.com.au*** **07**: Clork clock, ***puik-art.com*** **08:** Dark grey throw rug from ***wallacecotton.com*** **09:** Aksel Kjersgaard Shark table from ***greatdanefurniture.com*** **10:** Barossa LED spot orb from ***beaconlighting.com.au***



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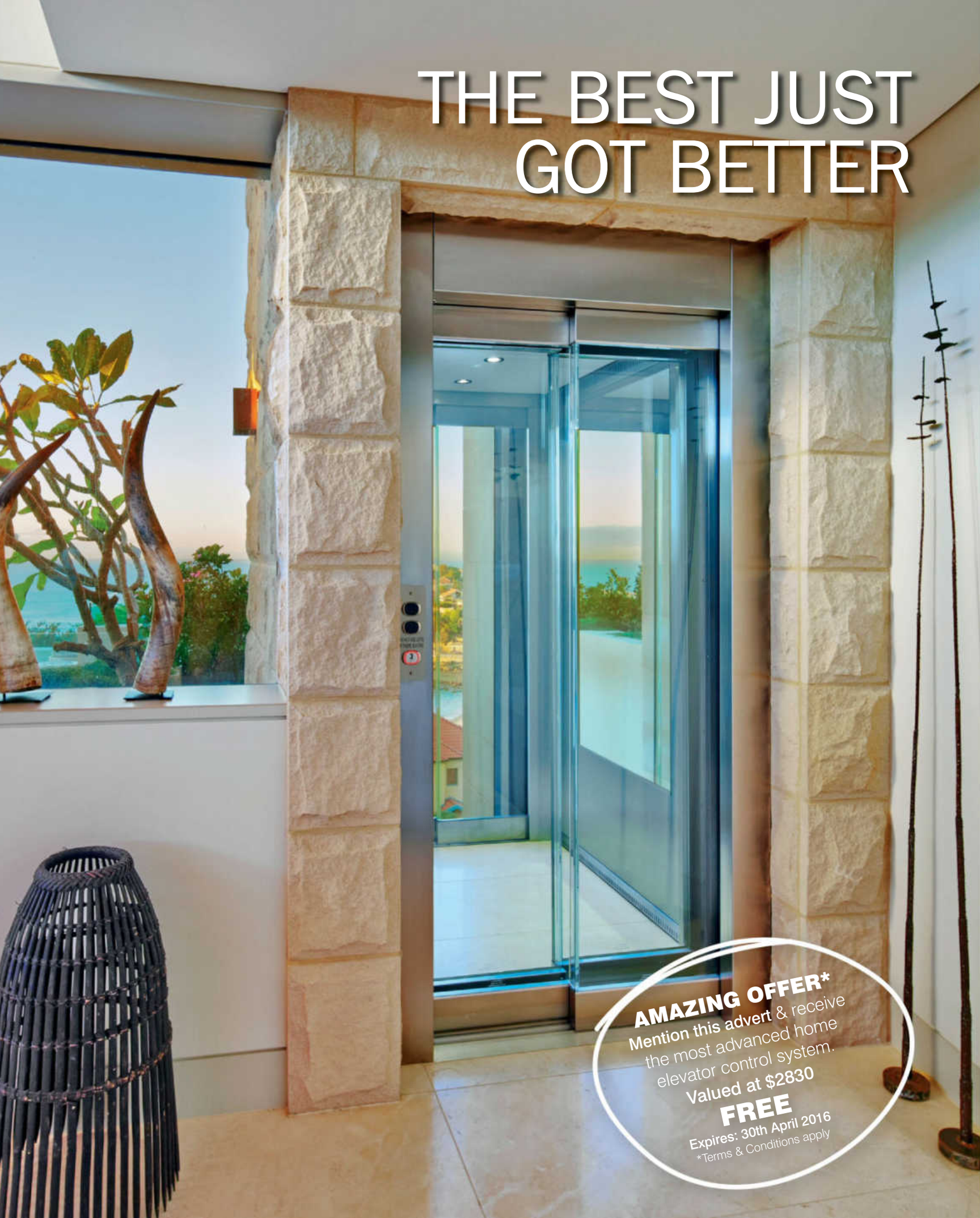
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DIAMOND *in the rough*

A TERMITE-INFESTED HOME IS GIVEN NEW LIFE BY SEASONED RENOVATORS



Low-maintenance and harmonious materials make for a welcoming front entry

DETAILS

HOUSE POZNIAK BEACH HOUSE
LOCATION PALM BEACH, SYDNEY
DATE COMMENCED FEBRUARY 2013
DATE COMPLETED DECEMBER 2013
COST $900,000

RIGHT Joy Badens created a bespoke pearlised finish for the foyer walls using a mixture of paint, plaster and wax



WORDS // LYNNE MALONE **PHOTOGRAPHY** // MARIAN RIABIC

Approaching the intriguing entry door and surrounding indigenous landscape, it becomes evident this Palm Beach home is special. Walk in and the assumption is confirmed — welcome to the Pozniak holiday home.

Contemplating the purchase of an overseas holiday home, Liz and Sheldon Pozniak concluded a second property within manageable driving distance from their Eastern Suburbs pad was preferable. The Northern Beaches was short-listed as the location of choice, and Liz began her search to find a home. Undeterred by a real estate agent's warning about an overgrown property located on a main thoroughfare, Liz recognised an unpolished gem that brimmed with



This circa-1880s door was sourced from Rajasthan, India and has been inset and manufactured to create an impressive entry



Views of Careel Bay can be admired from the seating area and all rooms of the home



WE LOVE THE USE OF LIZ'S FATHER'S NEW GUINEAN ART COLLECTION DOTTED THROUGHOUT THE COUPLE'S HOME



ABOVE Adoring host and gardener extraordinaire, Liz Pozniak enjoys her Palm Beach home away from home

LEFT The double-storey entry leads to the main living area

OPPOSITE The open-plan kitchen features a window that doubles as a splashback



"MY PALM BEACH HOME IS COMFORTABLE LIKE A FAVOURITE JUMPER, WHERE WE CAN ENTERTAIN AND HOST RELAXED, LONG, LEISURELY LUNCHES FOR OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO ENJOY TOGETHER" — LIZ POZNIAK

potential. "Sheldon and I were up for a challenge," says Liz. "And as luck had it, we found a derelict, termite-infested home superbly positioned overlooking Careel Bay."

With the Palm Beach property purchased, it was game on. An architect was retained and the design process commenced. Having remodelled seven homes over the past decade, the building-savvy couple prepared a project scope, set a budget and got to work. "Initially, our intent was to retain the existing foundation," says Liz. "However, our architect, David Phillips took one look and said 'No'. Due to the steep incline of the 750m² block, and given the land is within a bushfire zone, we decided to build a modern pole structure, opting for galvanised metal frame construction in lieu of traditional timber frameworks."

Constructed as a 400m² dual-level home, the entry level has a double-storey foyer, open-plan living area, master bedroom suite with ensuite and walk-in wardrobe, laundry room and guest toilet. Covered timber-decked terraces, wrap-around walkways and a heated plunge pool adjoin the living area. Three bedrooms are located on the ground level and flow onto a central lounge area, adjacent balcony and two bathrooms. There is also a double-car garage and a guest parking pad with direct access to the guest quarters. "When Liz and I are at home on our own, we have everything we need on one level," says Sheldon. "When my sons and their families visit, they have privacy and the guest level to themselves."

Tucked into the lush landscape and stonework, the house is buffered from the road and Palm Beach hustle and bustle. After engaging a professional landscape service for the initial plantings, infrastructure and installation of large plants, Liz took over the gardening. "My late mother loved gardening and flowers, so it must be genetic," says Liz. From her childhood Woollahra home, Liz harvested select plants and used them at the couple's Palm Beach home. Mature bird's nest and staghorn ferns, bromeliads, orchids and camellia trees are now flourishing in their new surrounds.

The living area has 3m-high ceilings with operable glass louvre windows purposed to maximise incoming natural light and cross-ventilation. A reverse air-conditioning system was installed, but is seldom used. Alternatively, Liz and Sheldon take advantage of prevailing sea breezes in the summer months. In cooler months, the warmth generated by a gas fireplace with marble hearth reduces the chill and creates a focal point in the lounge area.

The most important factor in the selection of interior finishes and materials



LEFT Stairs lead to the lower level and guest quarters

OPPOSITE The covered outdoor seating and plunge pool adjoin the open-plan living areas

was minimal maintenance balanced by serviceability to entertain friends and family. A reconstituted island benchtop forms the hub of the living area, which serves as a functional work surface and casual dining space. Installed throughout the public areas of the home are prefinished bamboo floorboards, with tufted broadloom carpeting in the bedrooms and stone tiles in the bathrooms — all in a light colour palette and complemented by white-washed walls.

When it comes to interior furnishings, Liz and Sheldon often find themselves recycling items from one home to the next, particularly when they're prized family treasures. "My dad was an avid collector of New Guinean tribal art, with many of the large pieces not fitting our Woollahra family home," says Liz. "As a tribute to my dad, I wanted to showcase his prized collection." Homage to Liz's family is paid throughout the home, with hand-me-down furnishings from her mother and grandmother lovingly restored or repurposed. "My Palm Beach home is comfortable like a favourite jumper, where we can entertain and host relaxed, long, leisurely lunches for our friends and family to enjoy together."

PROJECT TEAM

Architect David Phillips, Phillips Henningham Architects (*phillipshenningham.com*)
Builder Favro Constructions (*favroconstructions.com.au*)

MATERIALS

Outdoor paint Colorbond Monument (*dulux.com.au*)
Fireplace Real Flame Pure Vision gas fireplace (*realflame.com.au*)
Paint Dulux White on White (*dulux.com.au*)
Entry foyer feature Joy Badens, Wall Candy (*wallcandyartandpaint.com.au*)
Benchtop Bianco Drift (*caesarstone.com.au*)

APPLIANCES

Double DishDrawer Fisher & Paykel (*fisherpaykel.com/au*)
Refrigerator Haier (*haier.com.au*)
Oven, cooktop and rangehood ILVE (*ilve.com.au*)
Microwave Smeg (*smeg.com.au*)

SERVICES

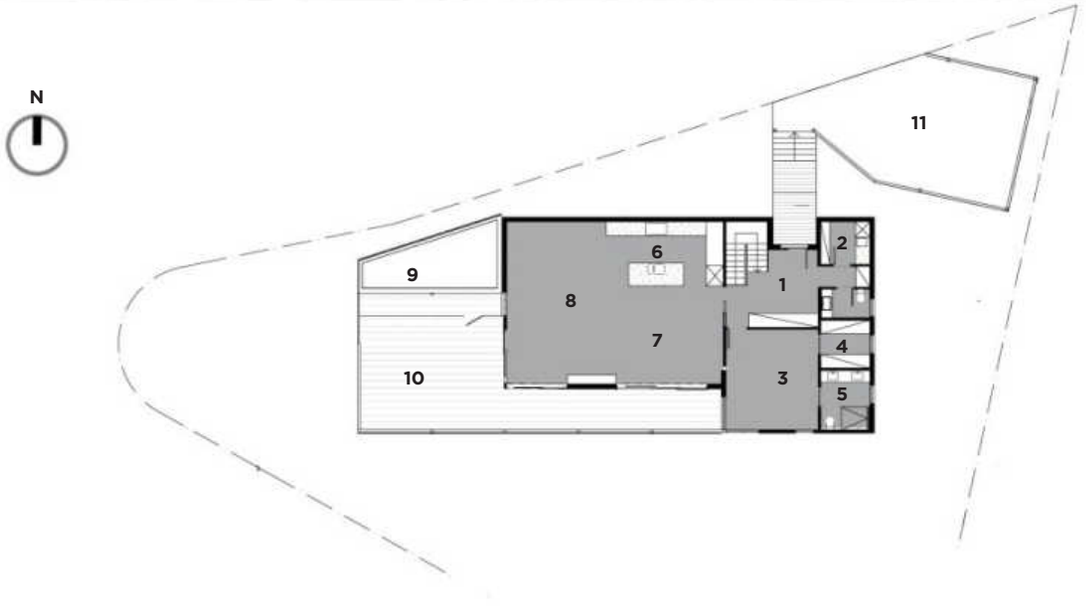
Landscaping The Gardenmakers (*thegardenmakers.com.au*)
Windows Scar Top Joinery (*scartop.com.au*)
Electrician Castle Electrical and Solar (*castleelectricalandsolar.com.au*)

FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS

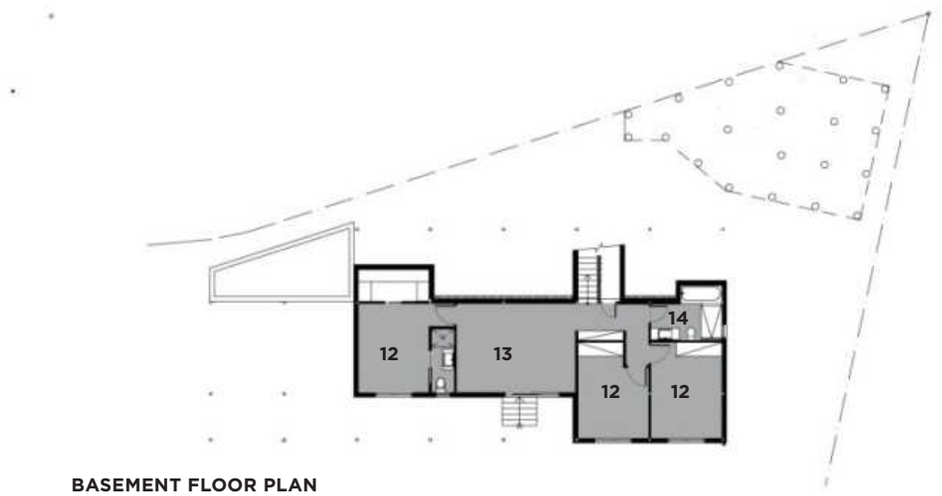
Pendant lights in entry foyer Papaya (*papaya.com.au*)
Blinds Versol blinds (*blindmaster.com.au*)

LEGEND

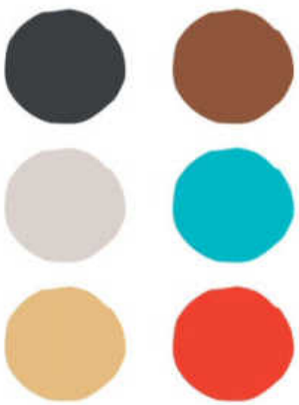
1 ENTRY
2 LAUNDRY
3 MASTER BEDROOM
4 WALK-IN ROBE
5 ENSUITE
6 KITCHEN
7 DINING ROOM
8 LIVING ROOM
9 POOL
10 DECK
11 CARPORT
12 BEDROOM
13 RUMPUS ROOM
14 BATHROOM



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

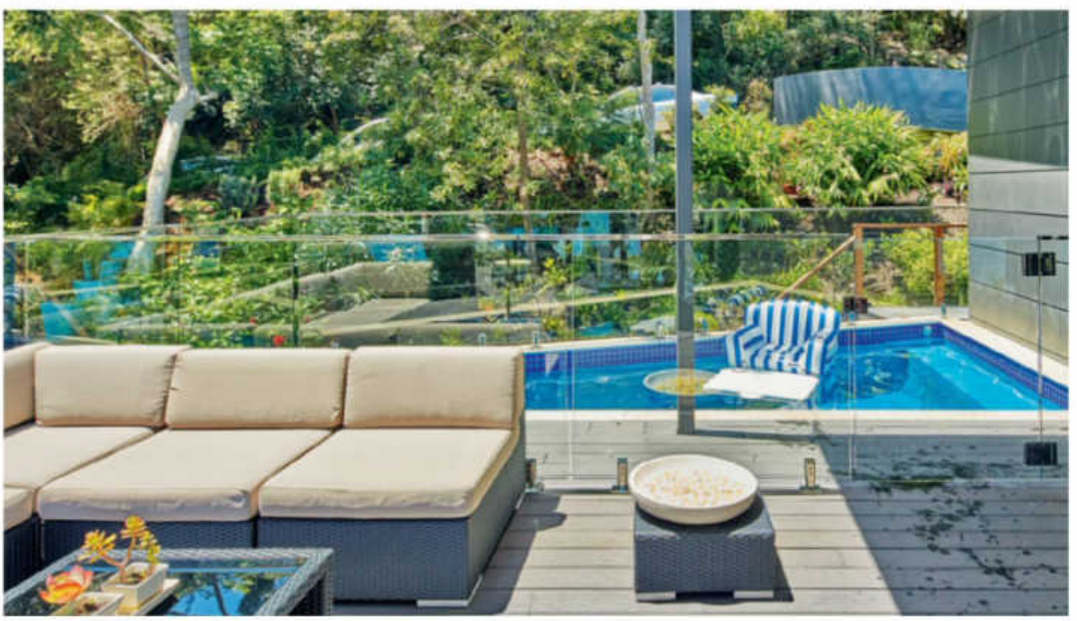


BASEMENT FLOOR PLAN



Colour Palette

This scheme is tropical with a beige, sand and timber base dotted with coral and turquoise accents. Softer shades of oxidised bronze, silver and grey provide balance



















Get the Look

CREATE YOUR OWN BEACHSIDE AESTHETIC WITH NEUTRAL TONES AND POPS OF COLOUR

01: Wall art from ***artitja.com.au*** **02:** Artwork from ***vavoom.com.au*** **03:** Ceramic lamp from ***zohiinteriors.com.au*** **04:** Coffee table from ***markmaple.co.nz*** **05:** Floor rug from ***ecochic.com.au*** **06:** Cushion from ***urbanara.de*** **07:** Timber vases from ***satara.com.au*** **08:** Bar stool from ***zanui.com.au*** **09:** Sofa from ***zanui.com.au*** **10:** Dining chair from ***sweetpeaandwillow.com.au*** **11:** Cushion from ***in-spaces.com.au***



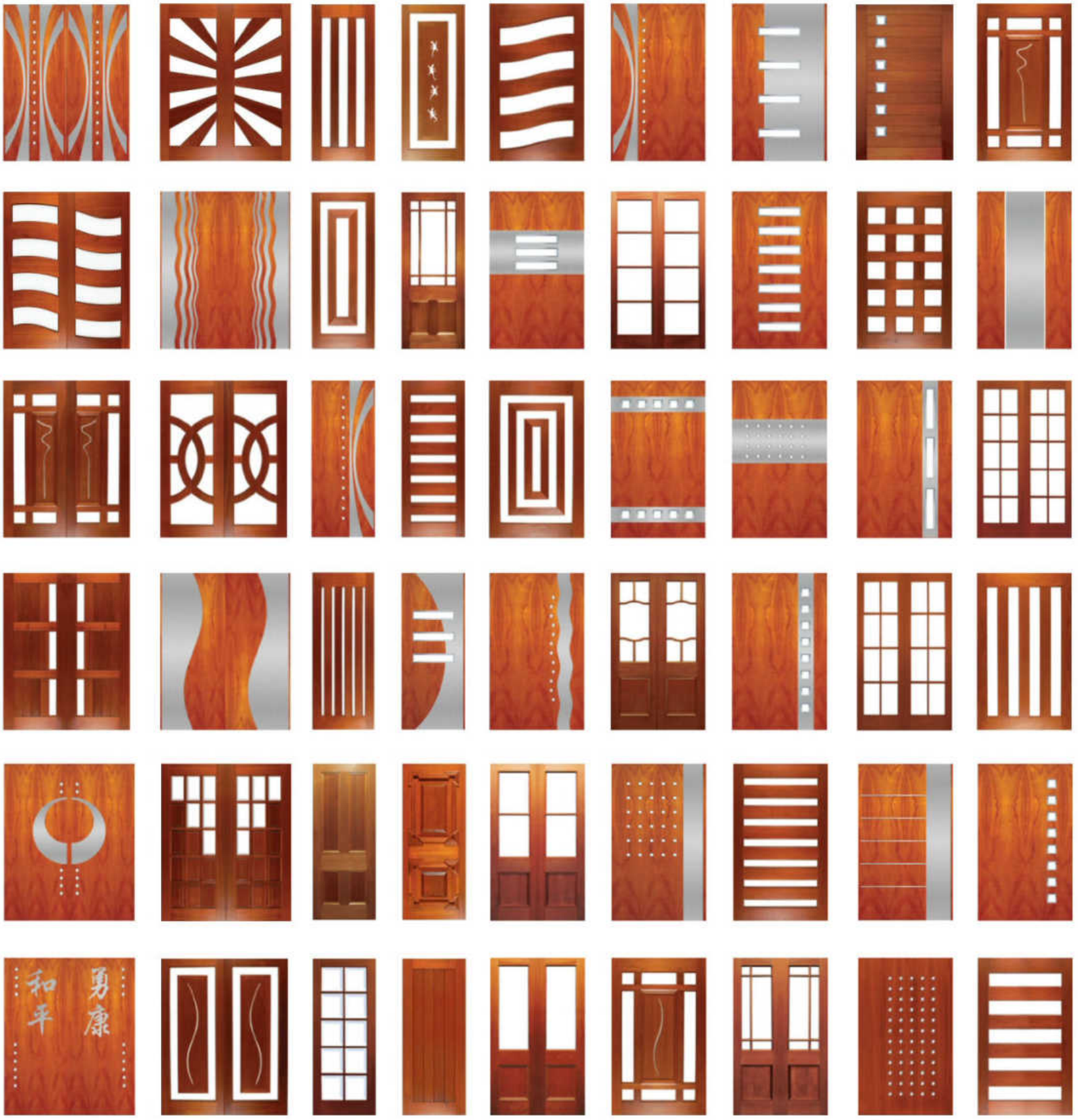


Pictured > Oakford Square > Eldon

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THIS SUPER-LOW-ENERGY HOUSE IS SMALL ON SIZE AND BIG ON SMART DESIGN







A quaint sitting room looks right out to the surrounding countryside

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS **PHOTOGRAPHY** // FINLAY MCKENZIE

The first passive house in the world using an integrated steel system is the brainchild of novice builder, Fiona McKenzie — a practising barrister with no architectural knowledge who proves determination and the will to create trumps experience any day.

Building a house that produces almost no energy is one mean feat, but this didn't stop Fiona, who made it her mission to fulfil her design concept. "The brief was to design and build a near-zero-energy home with a fast build process, prefab components and low-maintenance finishes," she says. "Plaster was to be avoided as no ongoing painting was wanted, and compliance with the International Passive House Standard was the goal for both design and construction. This also means heating and air conditioning aren't required and comfort levels had to be modelled to meet a benchmark for all parts of the house."

With a project not for the faint-hearted — or those afraid of hard work — attracting qualified tradespeople was a challenge for Fiona, who was shunned many times by builders who said they were "too busy" or "out of town" — when in fact they weren't ... "A few tradesmen expressed some interest, but when it came to the crunch, they ran away," says Fiona. "One told me he was busy, but I later found out he was concerned I would sue him if it went wrong."

While working with a barrister may cause some to run for the hills, Fiona finally found concreter, Brian Peacock, who wasn't deterred by another builder who told him to turn the job down. "Fortunately, Brian was the type to rise to a challenge," admits Fiona.

Inspired by steel construction and industrial structures, Fiona managed to create a completely new building system unseen in the industry that can also be used for high-rise building. In an age where apartments are popping up on every corner, the possibility of using a sustainable method is one that should be seized in the very near future. "We wanted to meet the International Passive House Standard and that meant every connection detail and component was measured and modelled," says Fiona. "The benchmark in a passive house means your energy use is only 10 per cent of what it would otherwise be. In other words, 90 per cent of your energy costs can be eradicated.

"Special materials in our build included thermally efficient materials such as Kingspan architectural wall panels. The insulation component in these is the best on the market," says Fiona. "We also used Kingspan Kooltherm panels for the floor and uPVC for the windows, which is an environmentally friendly product. Steel is completely recyclable and I wanted to avoid plaster and painting."

Concrete was one of the primary materials utilised in the Superpod, with Fiona relying on Brian to bring her vision to life. "I was there the day Brian burnished the concrete and he asked me at what point I was happy with the finish as it

DETAILS

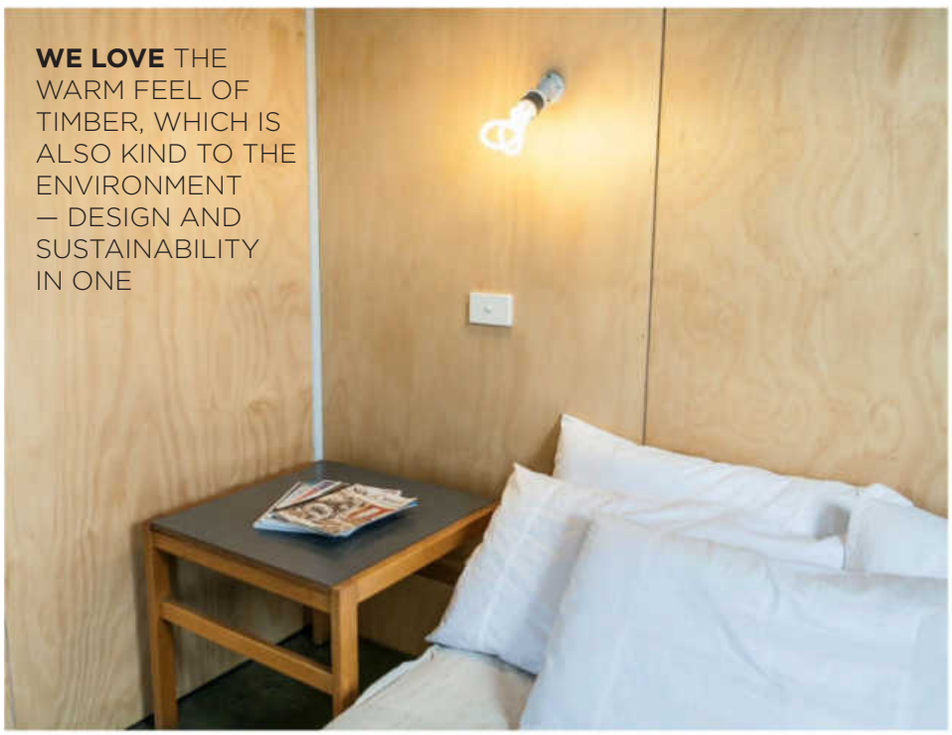
HOUSE SUPERPOD
LOCATION WONTHAGGI, VICTORIA
DATE COMMENCED AUGUST 2014
DATE COMPLETED DECEMBER 2014
COST $200,000



"THE INTERNATIONAL PASSIVE HOUSE STANDARD WAS THE GOAL FOR BOTH DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION. THIS ALSO MEANS HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING AREN'T REQUIRED AND COMFORT LEVELS HAD TO BE MODELLED TO MEET A BENCHMARK FOR ALL PARTS OF THE HOUSE"
— FIONA MCKENZIE



A compact bathroom/ laundry area combines two functions in one



WE LOVE THE WARM FEEL OF TIMBER, WHICH IS ALSO KIND TO THE ENVIRONMENT — DESIGN AND SUSTAINABILITY IN ONE

started to burn black," she says. "It has some browns and different greys, and we even threw in some coffee for variation — it almost killed him to be so experimental!"

Despite its raw, industrial vibe, the Superpod is very homely, exuding a Scandinavian aesthetic. The warmness experienced when escaping cyclonic winds is nothing short of a marvel for a space with no climate systems in place. "You immediately notice you're in a comfortable, fuss-free ambient temperature without battling with the weather outside," says Fiona of one of the perks of working with smart materials.

With the odds stacked against her, Fiona is proud of the fact the Superpod was the first Australian passive house to go on show in the International Passive House Open Day in 2014 — and rightly so. With the issue of climate change well and truly in full swing, it's critical clever design and sustainable methods are implemented to address the future of housing as well as our planet — and it's people such as Fiona who are spearheading this essential change. "I conceived it. I designed it. I am a woman."

PROJECT TEAM

Architect McCabe Architects (*mccabearchitects.com.au*)
Designer Fiona McKenzie
Engineer Shaun Lau, Pat Baygar & Associates (03 9859 1611)
Passive house consultant Tomas O'Leary, Passive House Academy (*passivehouseacademy.com*)

SERVICES

Concreter Brian Peacock
Electrician John Oldman
Carpenter Gavin Phillips, Jason Jury
Plumber Mark Tonkin, Brendan Goodman, The Tru Blue Plumber (*thetrublueplumber.com.au*)
Panel installation Arctic Constructions (*arcticipc.com.au*)

MATERIALS

Plywood Australply (*australply.com*)
Steel panels Kingspan Insulation (*kingspaninsulation.com.au*)
Windows Koemmerling (*koemmerling.com*)
Airtightness materials Hanno Werk (*hanno.com*)
Steel Austube Mills (*austubemills.com*); Surdex Steel (*surdexsteel.com.au*)

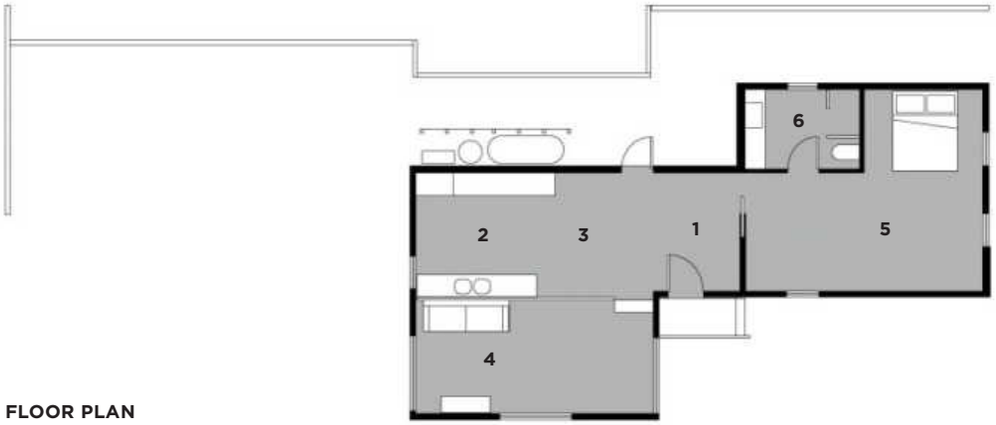
FURNITURE & FURNISHINGS

Rug Behruz Studio (*behruz.com*)

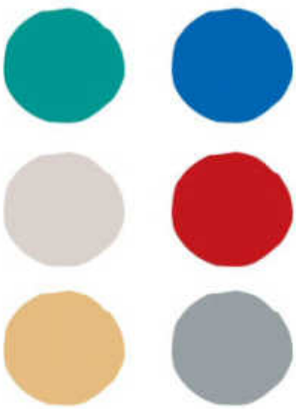
LEGEND

1 ENTRY
2 KITCHEN
3 DINING ROOM
4 LOUNGE ROOM
5 BEDROOM
6 BATHROOM

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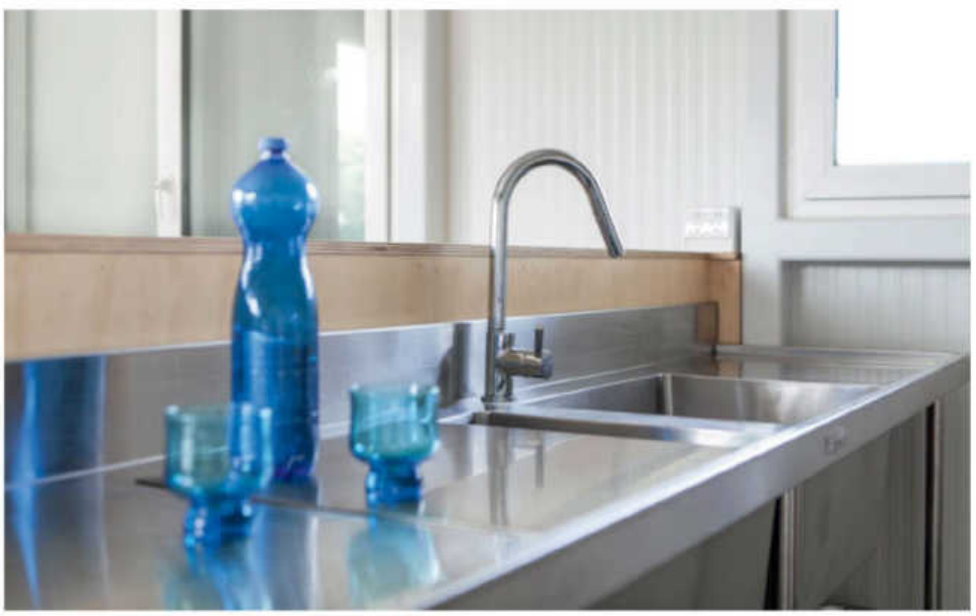
FLOOR PLAN



Colour Palette

Reminiscent of a Swedish farmhouse, blonde timber and strong bold and red accents are present in furnishings and crockery. The concrete and steel gives this home a contemporary twist







Get the Look

SCANDINAVIAN STYLE IS ALL ABOUT CLEAN LINES AND A MINIMALIST INTERIOR

01: Wooden dining chair from ***ghify.com*** **02:** Floor lamp from ***cranmorehome.com.au*** **03:** Cushion from ***boydblue.com*** **04:** Orange cushion from ***in-spaces.com*** **05:** Colourful vessels from ***zanui.com.au*** **06:** Coloured glassware from ***zanui.com.au*** **07:** Nordic coffee table from ***satara.com.au*** **08:** Turquoise bowls from ***orsonandblake.com.au*** **09:** Linen sofa from ***ecochic.com.au*** **10:** Bowl from ***countryculture.com.au***



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Deb and Luke Downes' Northern Rivers, Alstonville home enjoys 20 hectares of macadamia trees and a lake filled with fish. The property is a wonderful location for parties

TOWN & *country*

WHAT ARE THE JOYS, THE CHALLENGES AND THE LOGISTICS OF A LIFE BETWEEN TWO WORLDS? IN THIS EXCLUSIVE SERIES, WE FIND OUT JUST HOW SOME MANAGE TO HAVE IT ALL

The L-shaped house, which Deb and Luke renovated several years ago, wraps around the garden and enjoys views across the macadamia farm. On cooler nights, guests can still enjoy dining outside (below)

WORDS // TRACEY HORDERN
PHOTOGRAPHY // MIREILLE MERLET

Welcome to the first in the series of *Grand Designs Australia*'s Grand Living, where we meet those whose lives are happily divided between the two worlds of town and country. Have you ever wondered what life would be like living between the two? Many people manage to do just that, but what does it really entail?

Almost like a plot pulled from a romance novel, Australians Deb and Luke Downes met at the airport. Luke's work constantly takes him to international destinations and Deb was a flight attendant. No doubt, they were attracted to each other's adventurous spirits, love of travel and a shared, easy-going Australian sense of humour. Another attraction for both was their mutual adoration of country living.

Luke and Deb's earlier married life was based in the city, first living in Sydney and later in Brisbane. In time, Deb left her career to raise their three children while Luke continued travelling around the world for business.

Luke and Deb have always enjoyed spending time in the countryside and have lifelong friends there, as well as a property in NSW's Northern Rivers. Spending holidays and long weekends with their friends on their avocado farm, the couple soon fell in love with the beautiful region and came to realise it was possible for Luke to continue his career travelling internationally while basing the family in the Australian countryside.

Fourteen years ago, the Downes purchased their stunning property, which is located five minutes from the idyllic village of Alstonville in the Northern Rivers. The 20-hectare farm has 3000 macadamia trees and requires a lot of maintenance





"WHEN LUKE IS HOME, I USUALLY PLAN FOR FRIENDS TO COME OVER FOR DRINKS AND DINNER. WE REALLY MAKE THE MOST OF OUR DOWNTIME HERE TOGETHER AND MOST OF THE TIME, WITH THE BEAUTIFUL CLIMATE WE HAVE HERE, WE TEND TO GATHER WITH FRIENDS ON THE PORCH, DECKS AND IN THE GARDEN" — DEB DOWNES

Entertaining family and friends is a large part of Deb and Luke's life. Guests are invited to create their own pizzas to cook in the outdoor oven





LUKE'S CONSTANT TRAVELS ARE EVIDENT IN THE LARGE MEDIA ROOM, WHERE HIS VAST WHISKEY COLLECTION IS DISPLAYED, EACH BOTTLE TELLING OF A DIFFERENT JOURNEY THAT HIS WORK HAS TAKEN HIM TO

and constant work, yet it was a venture the couple were prepared to enthusiastically commit to. For both Luke and Deb, the dream of living and bringing up their family on a working farm had finally become a reality.

One of the first things the couple did was renovate the original farmhouse. When the property was purchased, "The home was dark, austere and overcrowded", says Deb. To instantly add light, the Downes scaled down the interiors, installed skylights and opened the house up by allowing as much light in as possible and expanding the outdoor living areas.

Today, the house is a charming, functioning family home, with almost every room opening to the alfresco areas and the beautiful gardens that surround the homestead. Set on the top of a crescent, the house has a stunning outlook across gently rolling hills, thousands of macadamia trees and down towards a lake nestled in a valley below.

Luke's constant travels are evident in the large media room, where his vast whiskey collection is displayed, each bottle telling of a different journey that his work has taken him to. As keen hosts, there is little the Downes enjoy more than welcoming friends and family to their home and generously entertaining.

"When Luke is home, I usually plan for friends to come over for drinks and dinner," says Deb. "We really make the most of our downtime here together and most of the time, with the beautiful climate we have here, we tend to gather with friends on the porch, decks and in the garden."

Deb has also gone on to forge a new career as a funeral director, a vocation she has wholeheartedly embraced. With her generous and kind demeanour, Deb is just the sort of person you would want guiding you through a difficult time. "I truly love what I do," she says. "I thrive on the knowledge that I can be helpful at a time when most people don't know which way to turn.

"As a funeral director, it's almost like I am parachuted into the middle of a family at a time when they need to depend on you. For me, knowing that I have helped make that journey a little easier, it's the most amazing feeling and yet every funeral is different, just as every family is different, each requiring a personal touch and genuine empathy."

After completing school, the children left home to pursue further studies and chart their own lives. Luke continues to travel around the globe regularly and as much as her work allows, Deb meets Luke in overseas locations so they can enjoy cosmopolitan cities together as much as they relish their country home life.

But is this the ideal life, one split between two worlds of international travel and managing a working farm? According to Deb, it requires planning and balance. "We arrange Luke's travel itineraries in advance, and that helps," she explains. "But things can change. I usually organise social events for when he comes home but sometimes the things you were looking forward to don't happen, and that can be disappointing.

"What we most enjoy is simply being together here at home," says Deb. "We truly appreciate where we live and we spend as much time as we can outdoors. I'm used to Luke travelling a lot. He's been doing it for more than 30 years, so it's not really an issue. We have fantastic neighbours and a great community of friends, plus it's helped me to be more resilient and capable.

"That's not to say we don't have challenges," says Deb. "Things can break down or go wrong and it often happens when Luke is travelling. I have had to deal with burst water pumps, accidents and sick children — and that can be hard, just as it is for any family. Luke will often come home from a trip and change straight from his business suit into his farm clothes to attend to whatever needs to be done. And like any property owner will tell you, there is always something that needs to be done!

"But, ultimately, it works for us and the good times far outweigh the tough times," says Deb. "One of our favourite things to do is spend time on our beautiful lake. We have a pontoon and a little tinny, and every Christmas and Australia Day, we have parties there — it's become quite a celebratory Downes tradition.

"Our friends and family all come over. We can fish as we have plenty of bass, yellow belly and silver perch in the lake. The kids especially love being in the boat and making as much noise as they like. It's times like these when we most appreciate living here in the Northern Rivers ... Where else could you have your own lake to enjoy with your family and friends?"

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DESIGN A LIFE

ONCE IN A WHILE YOU MEET SOMEONE WHO HAS COMPLETELY DESIGNED THEIR LIFE TO LEAD THE ULTIMATE EXISTENCE. ONE SUCH PERSON IS THE TALENTED HOMEWARES DESIGNER, TAI SCHAFFLER

Photography: Ken Bissell



The main house is a light-filled, open space that balances Tai's love of feminine, tactile designs and Andrew's classic minimalist aesthetic. The large, two-bedroom guesthouse is a luxury fun poolside pad

ABOVE Living the dream in the Gold Coast hinterland, Tai and Andrew can run their international business from the comfort of their beautiful property, while never being too far from the hustle and bustle of the city or the airport

WORDS // TRACEY HORDERN
PHOTOGRAPHY // MIREILLE MERLET

Originally from New Zealand, Tai Schaffler's heart has always been firmly rooted in the countryside, but her achievements and aspirations are entirely big city. Based in South–East Queensland in the beautiful valley of Tallebudgera, less than 30 minutes from the Gold Coast Airport, Tai operates her internationally successful homewares brand, Bandhini in a setting that could only be described as idyllic.

Charming, fun and with a rich and irreverent sense of humour, Tai is a woman who deeply understands and appreciates nature and personally bases her life and designs on solid, sustainable principles. Originally a journalist, Tai is extremely well travelled and wildly curious about all branches of spirituality and culture.

With years spent in countries including India, where she still produces, Tai's inherent love of design was further ignited. The flames of passion for good design that is also ethically and ecologically responsible can also be attributed to decades of travel and living in countries where a healthy environment dictates wellbeing.

While Tai is quick to point out, it hasn't always been easy — it has always been exciting. Like many, the GFC hit Bandhini hard, but Tai's philosophy of abundance and giving back has continuously driven her. "The more you get, the more you can help," explains Tai. "It's so important to say yes and then find a way of doing it." Much of the philosophy of Bandhini can be found in Tai's belief, "That when we create a warm, comfortable and aesthetically pleasing environment — it lifts the spirit and we all do better."

When Tai and Andrew Zdanowicz, her equally talented designer partner, first came across their hinterland property, it was a certain tree that caught Tai's eye. Fondly named Ralph, this beautiful 240-year-old western red cedar ironically survived due to asymmetry. Historically, the stunning native cedar trees were decimated on Australia's east coast in the 1800s by the infamous 'cedar getters'. Today, Ralph is the centrepiece of this beautiful, emerald green piece of land, the base for Tai's home and growing empire.

"My overwhelming memory as a child was my grandparent's country property in New Zealand. The historic farmhouse and a beautiful oak tree there," explains Tai. "They lived near a river and when I saw this property — with Ralph and a creek — it immediately felt like home. For me, having the right environment means I can create in harmony," explains Tai. "Right now, I'm doing the 2016 storyboards for a US client,



Neiman Marcus. They want themes such as European Influence, Coastal Chic, Uptown Chic, Garden Party and I can do all that from here!"

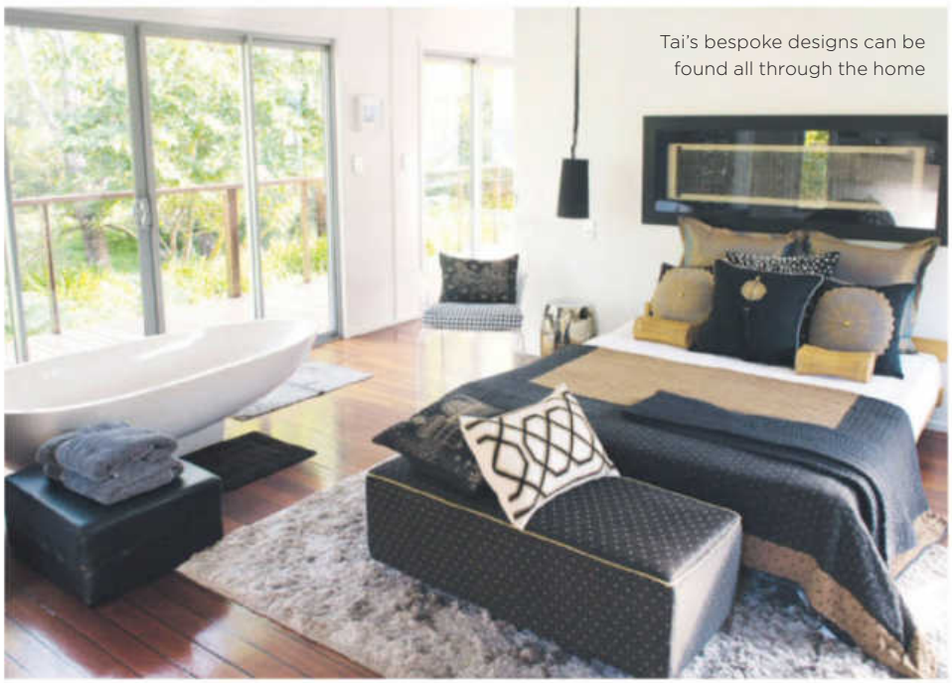
Set down a beautiful country road, it's easy to forget this is headquarters for an international business, but as Tai explains, logistics are king. The seemingly unlikely clincher that allowed the business to be based in the countryside was daily access to couriers and an easily accessible airport.

Handcrafted and hand detailed using natural fibres where possible, Bandhini homewares leave as light a footprint as possible, each piece is designed to eventually and gently return to

This spot close to the house is perfect for relaxation and contemplation. Cushions and throws are just some of the designs from Bandhini Home Collection

Tai and her Bandhini staff enjoy afternoon tea on the terrace





Tai's bespoke designs can be found all through the home

the earth. Each season, Bandhini releases its collection of stunning soft furnishings that especially capture Australia's unique nature — designs that are appreciated by clients around the world.

"The whole place here is designed to support a creative process," explains Tai. "When we bought the land 14 years ago, the real dilemma was finding the right courier who would come here — but in reality, we are only 10 minutes from Burleigh Heads, but initially there was resistance. Now couriers arrive daily, down a lovely, windy country road with gorgeous scenery, as opposed to being stuck in city traffic!"

The design of the office, the main home and guesthouse are supremely simple and streamlined. "We had a wonderful architect and great builders," explains Tai. "They absolutely got what we were trying to achieve. This was built before the Glenn Murcutt look really took off and became mainstream. It also helped enormously that this is one of the few pieces of land in the valley that is flat and conducive to the design we had in mind."

"I WAS ALWAYS DETERMINED TO WORK IN AN ENVIRONMENT LIKE THIS, AND NOW BECAUSE OF TECHNOLOGY AND THE EASE OF TRAVEL, IT'S NO LONGER ESSENTIAL TO LIVE IN THE CITY TO SUCCEED" — TAI SCHAFFLER

When not based at her Bandhini headquarters and home, Tai is at her Sydney showroom and office, or travelling internationally attending the all-important US trade shows. Tai's son Sharm is now the appointed go-to man for Bandhini's growing US market. Clearly a much-loved son, the success of the brand internationally has much to do with her son's dedication and talent.

The office building is reminiscent of a luxury Bali-style pavilion and is a hub of activity through the workweek, with staff overseeing the day-to-day management of the business. The main house is a light-filled, open space that balances Tai's love of feminine, tactile designs and Andrew's classic minimalist aesthetic. The large, two-bedroom guesthouse is a luxury fun poolside pad that is a stylish yet functional and practical design.

All this creativity and industry set on rural acreage of hinterland bliss would be hard to reconcile for many. But according to Tai, it's not just desirable — it's necessary for her success. "My work is inspired by nature, I like to keep it all as earthy as possible. I was always determined to work in an environment like this, and now because of technology and the ease of travel, it's no longer essential to live in the city to succeed."

That's not to say Tai hasn't cleverly designed and configured her life to work as well as it does. The Sydney showroom is one train stop from the airport, an intentional decision that translates to an easy two-hour journey from home to showroom, one state to another, plus Bandhini also has Perth, Melbourne and Adelaide. While these bases for her business are worlds apart, each one is dependent on the other for ongoing success.

Tai's designing talents have been recognised by people as varied as Julia Gillard, Deepak Chopra, Jamie Durie, His Holiness, the Dalai Lama and our own editor-in-chief, Kate St James. Setting up stages, styling events and creating beautiful, calming spaces are second nature to Tai and it is only natural that this gift has extended into Tai designing a life that allows creativity and beauty to naturally flourish.



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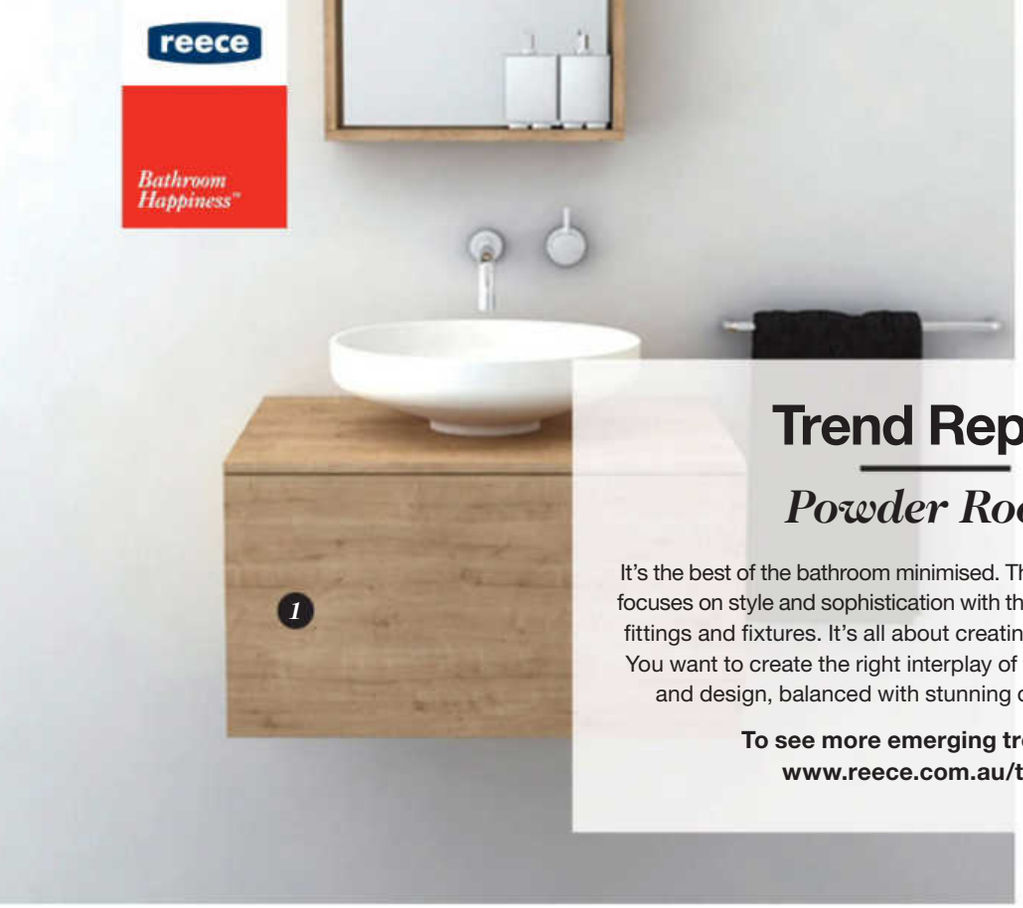
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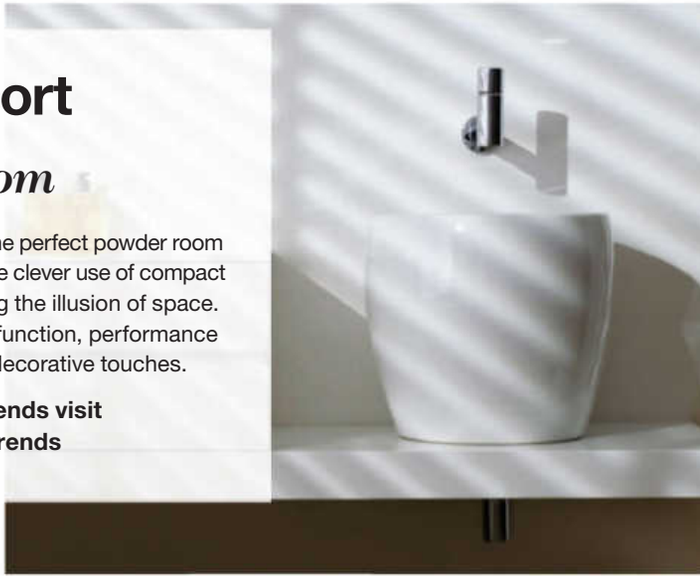
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Trend Report

Powder Room

It's the best of the bathroom minimised. The perfect powder room focuses on style and sophistication with the clever use of compact fittings and fixtures. It's all about creating the illusion of space. You want to create the right interplay of function, performance and design, balanced with stunning decorative touches.

To see more emerging trends visit www.reece.com.au/trends















Creating the illusion of space.

The best of the bathroom minimised.



1. Omvivo Venice 750 Wall Hung Vanity Unit and Venice 450 Counter Basin
2. Kado Aspect 330 Solid Wall Basin
3. Laufen mimo Shelf 450
4. Alape WT 400 Round Washstand
5. LAUFEN ILBAGNOALESSI One Freestanding Basin
6. Teknobili Loop Wall Basin Mixer Set WELS 5 star, 6 L/min
7. Hideaway + Rectangle In Wall Cistern Buttons Chrome
8. AXA Quattro Wall Hung Pan WELS 4 star, 4.5/3 L/Flush, 3.3 Av L/Flush
9. Mizu Soothe 500 Wall Hung Vanity Unit

INTERIORS

140: KOGARAH CONTEMPORARY

152: HOTEL HOTEL

Project: Kogarah Contemporary **Designer:** Greg Natale **Photography:** Anson Smart



NEW KID ON **THE BLOCK**

A STRAGGLER IN THE STREET, THIS HOME WAS KNOCKED DOWN AND REBUILT TO A WHOLE NEW LEVEL







DETAILS

HOUSE KOGARAH CONTEMPORARY
LOCATION KOGARAH, NSW
DATE COMMENCED 2009
DATE COMPLETED 2014
COST $1 MILLION

LEFT A sunken lounge area is a modern throwback to the '60s

LEFT BELOW A formal dining area is the perfect place for entertaining family and friends

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS
PHOTOGRAPHY // ANSON SMART

In a street with such enormous presence, it can be hard to compete, especially when your home is straggling, to say the least. For this family, there was only one logical solution, one that many would deem a little extreme — demolition.

In poor condition, thanks to more than 30 years of haphazard modifications, a new creation now sits in place of this once-decrepit abode.

For a cluey young family who knew the value of their block, making the decision to start again was a no-brainer. They needed a home that not only catered for their family, but was also contemporary in style. So who better to call than award-winning interior designer Greg Natale?

Now a two-storey dwelling, the residence boasts landscaped gardens and a swimming pool as well as five spacious bedrooms for the owners' growing brood. "This had to be a generously proportioned family home," says Greg. "On a practical level, the existing property was unable to cater to the needs of a growing family."



ED'S FAVE THE SUNKEN LOUNGE AREA, WHICH IS FILLED WITH QUIRKY, DESIGNER PIECES THAT STAND BEAUTIFULLY ON THEIR OWN YET WORK SO WELL TOGETHER



Opting to divide the home into a series of zones using parallel blades, Greg was given one necessity — a sunken lounge. "Returning to this old favourite was an enjoyable part of the design process," says Greg. "With the sunken lounge opening out onto the rear lawn, there's a nice transition between the interior and exterior of the property." Stepping down from the dining area into the lounge room, a comforting, cocooning effect reminiscent of '60s-era homes immediately makes itself felt, and it becomes clear this is an area for relaxation. Complete with a lounge, chairs and window seating, there's plenty of space to sit back with a glass of wine and unwind with family and friends.

Fulfilling the homeowner's vision to infuse the colour red into the home goes against Greg's signature aesthetic, but they were able to compromise and use the hue in the master bedroom and kitchen. "As people who know me will attest, I'm not really a red person, but my client was keen on some red elements," says Greg. "Conscious of her fondness for a rusty patina, we arrived at that beautiful tiled splashback, which injects the space with a rusty red hue using vintage tiles."



WE LOVE THE TILED RED SPLASHBACK IN THE KITCHEN, WHICH OFFERS A HINT OF RETRO AMONG ALL THE MODERN NECESSITIES



A Platner stool is a classic piece that never goes out of style

THE MASTER BEDROOM UTILISES A SIMILAR RUSTY COLOUR AS A FEATURE WALL, BUT IN A MORE TEXTURAL AND EARTHY MANNER



Jonathan Adler cushions add a colourful, tribal feel



Shell-look tiles bring light to the moody bathroom

LEGEND

1 ENTRY
2 GARAGE
3 MEDIA ROOM
4 BEDROOM
5 KITCHEN
6 DINING ROOM
7 LAUNDRY
8 SUNKEN LOUNGE
9 ENTERTAINING
10 POOL
11 POOL LOUNGE AND KITCHEN
12 MASTER BEDROOM
13 WALK-IN ROBE
14 ENSUITE
15 BATHROOM
16 BEDROOM
17 VOID



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



GROUND FLOOR PLAN



Colour Palette

This palette is the ultimate in sophistication. The tones are muted chocolate brown, rust, steel and dark timber with accents of deep reds and pinks to add some femininity to what is an otherwise masculine feel



PROJECT TEAM
Builder SCI Projects (*sciprojects.com.au*)
Designer Greg Natale (*gregnatale.com*)

The master bedroom utilises a similar rusty colour as a feature wall, but in a more textural and earthy manner.

"For Greg Natale Design, this new build offered us the opportunity to approach the design from a holistic standpoint," says Greg. "In all my work, I strive to fuse design and decoration, and the Costa house is a project where this carries through from the front gate right down to the bathroom fixtures." *gregnatale.com*











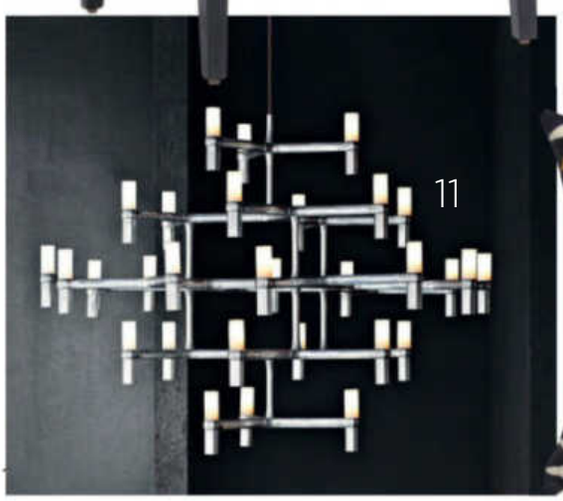
Get the Look

INJECT SOME OF GREG NATALE'S SIGNATURE STYLE INTO YOUR INTERIORS

01: Greg Natale Corfu rug from ***designerrugs.com.au*** **02:** York chair in red by Rodolfo Dordoni from ***minotti.com*** **03:** Allegro Assai Suspension Lamp from ***spacefurniture.com.au*** **04:** Real Good barstool from ***bludot.com.au*** **05:** Cesar coffee table from ***minotti.com*** **06:** *Atlantis* 150cm x 150cm oil on canvas from ***scottpetrieart.com*** **07:** Sullivan coffee table in walnut by Rodolfo Dordoni from ***minotti.com*** **08:** *Passion* 150cm x 150cm oil on canvas from ***scottpetrieart.com*** **09:** Kitaj by Rodolfo Dordoni table from ***minotti.com*** **10:** Brasilia Triangle cushion in neutral from ***jonathanadler.com*** **11:** Crown Major chandelier from ***nemolighting.com*** **12:** Sofia dining chair from ***casa-mia.com.au***













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Pictured: Balinese Teak


LOUIS
Conflict Resol



A little larger than the Original Room, the Creative Room offers plenty of space for work and rest

HOTEL HOTEL

DESIGN INSPIRATION THAT'S LARGER THAN LIFE







LEFT The Monster kitchen and bar serves local and seasonal food made for sharing

LEFT MIDDLE The Library is stocked with small press and vintage books

LEFT BELOW The Mosaic Room is adjacent to Hotel Hotel's secret garden and fireplace

WORDS // APRIL OSSINGTON

When embarking on their own grand design, an increasing number of homeowners are gaining inspiration from commercial spaces. Progressive architecture is creeping into every crevice, and a stroke of genius can come from a visit to a trendy café around the corner or a boutique hotel overseas. As a result, the boundaries between residential and commercial architecture continue to blur and homeowners are becoming more courageous when it comes to their own designs.

Part of the cutting-edge NewActon precinct by Canberra's Lake Burley Griffin, Hotel Hotel lives within the highly sustainable Nishi Building. The brainchild of Molonglo Group, the hotel's rooms are individually decorated with original artworks, collected objects and handmade furnishings. In keeping with Nishi's commitment to sustainability, the rooms also feature salvaged and restored 20th-century Australian furniture including beds made from reclaimed oak. An interpretation of the textures and layers of an Australian shack and landscape, the walls are an unusual mix of concrete, cork, earthen clay and natural-fibre wallpaper.

The entry staircase constructed of more than 2150 pieces of recycled timber is one of the many standout design elements the hotel boasts. The public lounge is another of these features, with a string of nested spaces made of woven rough-formed concrete structural lintels. Paying homage to post-war immigration to Australia, the salon and dining rooms feature a shattered terrazzo floor, an original 1940s floral carpet, 1850s Greek oil paintings and German and American 1960s neon prints. An extension of the main lobby bar and lounge area, the impressive mosaic room features an installation of tiles made by the late Gerard Havekes, wall paintings by Al Stark and an oversized piece by Dutch artist Rik Meijers.

So how does the architecture and interior style of a place such as Hotel Hotel translate to a residential space? Rather than recreating the look to the tee, you can select a favourite feature and adapt it on a smaller scale. Perhaps you could incorporate a cork feature wall, experiment with different textures or simply add some vibrantly coloured, retro-inspired furniture? If nothing else, the features of commercial architecture can inspire us to push boundaries and be brave when designing our own homes, ultimately leading to some exciting design.



The Original Room features restored 20th-century furniture



Part of the Meandering Room, this bathroom features heated flooring and a luxurious overhead rain and hand shower



01



02

Get the Look

01: The Salon at Hotel Hotel **02:** *Eclipse* print from ***blancucha.etsy.com*** **03:** Osaka chair from ***boconcept.com/en-au*** **04:** Storm hand-woven wool-silk throw and cushion from ***linenmoore.com.au*** **05:** Turtle pedestals from ***negropontes-galerie.com*** **06:** Milo sofa from ***jardan.com.au*** **07:** *Feather* canvas print from ***emporiumhome.com.au*** **08:** Sentosa bath in mercury from ***apaiser.com*** **09:** *Abstract One* art poster from ***xavierandme.com***



03



04



08



09



05



07



06

HYDRONIC UNDERFLOOR HEATING



Designed by Bijl Architecture
Photography by Katherine Lu
Completed for Stuart Wilson Constructions

Hydronic floor heating systems are proving popular for providing comfort heating solutions to new projects and larger size renovations.

The hydronic heating system gives access to alternatives to electricity as the major power source and keeps the running costs down for large floor areas. As well as heating the floor, the system can also utilise designer wall radiators.

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KITCHENS & BATHROOMS



160: HAMPTONS CHIC
164: MODERN LUXURY
168: BRIGHT WHITE

Project and photography: Urban Kitchens



White Hot

WHITE KITCHENS ARE HERE TO STAY. TEAMED WITH BLACK BENCHTOPS, TIMBER FLOORS AND ON-TREND LIGHTING, THESE KITCHENS PROVE THEY'RE THE PERFECT SPACES FOR ANY SERIOUS HOME COOK



HAMPTONS CHIC

1 Clean lines and a neutral palette rule in this Mosman Park residence





ABOVE Copper pots suspended from the ceiling are a design element that's also practical
LEFT An antler pendant light lends itself to the Hamptons theme, adding a rustic feel to the dining area
OPPOSITE TOP A thick slab of marble is a luxe addition to the homely kitchen
OPPOSITE BOTTOM Opt for white cabinetry to maintain a clean and fresh look that never goes out of date

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS
PHOTOGRAPHY // THE MAKER DESIGNER KITCHENS

For a lot of people, the kitchen can be a place of mayhem — think dirty dishes, too many cooks and the stress of deciding what's for dinner. So what's the best way to eliminate stress? Start with a kitchen featuring a classic and calm aesthetic. The Hamptons style is the go-to choice with elements such as subtle timber hints, marble benchtops and crisp white cupboards.

For this home in Mosman Park, Perth, a coastal theme is immediately recognised. "The kitchen was to be in keeping with the Hamptons style of the home and needed to feel light and airy while still being casual and stylish," says Jess O'Shea, design manager for The Maker Designer Kitchens.

Storage is essential in one of the busiest spaces of the home, and this kitchen provides plenty of it. White drawers and cabinetry feature strongly and complement the honed Calacatta marble benchtop, which boasts a soft and subtle black–grey vein. "The colour of the cabinets remains classic, which enables the natural marble benchtops to stand out," says Jess.

Balancing the necessities of a kitchen with on-point style, this space provides all the essentials a family needs without compromising on aesthetic, ultimately proving classic is best.



Colour Palette

The base is white with timber and black/deep grey highlights. Warmth is added through the copper pots used as decorative elements as well as soft green glass and foliage



WE LOVE THE HONED MARBLE BENCHTOP. OPT FOR A THICKER SLAB OF MARBLE FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT IN A CLASSIC KITCHEN







MODERN LUXURY

2 Rich in aesthetics, this kitchen ticks all the boxes



ABOVE LEFT
A black-veined splashback is the ultimate in on-trend luxury
ABOVE RIGHT
Suspended black pendant lights offer a touch of modernity

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS
PHOTOGRAPHY // URBAN KITCHENS

After falling in love with a design from Urban Kitchens, a young family just had to have the same luxurious space for themselves. Spanning a six- to eight-week build, it's safe to say their wish was granted in a speedy manner.

To say this kitchen is a head-turner is an understatement. The marble benchtop and matching splashback set the tone for the space and beautifully contrast against the timber floorboards, which bring a layer of warmth to the kitchen.

When working with such an exuberant material, it's best to opt for neutral surroundings, such as the three black pendant lights suspended above the kitchen island and the white cabinetry with no handles to ensure fluidity. Natural light is also plentiful within this kitchen, illuminating the space in all its glory.

With a kitchen so beautiful, it's almost a shame to cook in it but, then again, who doesn't want to work within something so luxurious?



Colour Palette

A neutral palette provides elegance for this luxurious modern design. The feature is the marble which is soft white and grey. Warmth is added with the honey tones of the flooring and modernity with the black pendants



WE LOVE THE STATEMENT ISLAND BENCHTOP THAT HAS MAXIMUM IMPACT



BRIGHT WHITE

3 A crisp kitchen with plenty of space for a growing family





WE LOVE THE THREE-LIGHT PENDANT SUSPENDED OVER THE KITCHEN ISLAND, WHICH IS A GREAT ARCHITECTURAL ADDITION TO A TRADITIONAL SPACE

WORDS // ANNABELLE CLOROS
PHOTOGRAPHY // ALBY TURNER & SON KITCHENS

Located in Clapham, Adelaide, this kitchen by Alby Turner & Son was created to cater for a married couple looking to expand their family. Focusing on a clean design mixed with a little heritage, the outcome is a classic and open space that begs to be enjoyed.

In this predominantly open-plan home, the kitchen is located in the living area, which also includes a dining and lounge room. "The windows/French doors to the right of the kitchen look out onto the alfresco area," says designer, Sophie Doumbiotis. "The space can open up and cater to large groups of people."

While the kitchen area is part of the extension of the original 1950s home, there are tributes to traditional elements, from the bookcase detailing in the kitchen island to the mantel that cleverly houses the rangehood and surrounds the freestanding oven.

Creating a warm and inviting space for friends and family to enjoy together was high on the agenda for the couple, and with proportions generous in size, it's easy to picture family gatherings taking place in the space.

With its timeless style and subtle nod to tradition, this kitchen meshes perfectly with its surroundings and serves as the heart of the home.

ABOVE The timber floorboards bring warmth to the space
OPPOSITE Black benchtops create contrast between the cabinetry and the shade of choice in the kitchen — white



Colour Palette

White is the shade of the day when it comes to kitchens, and here is another example. The steel handles and appliances break up the starkness and the black highlights of the stools and the marble anchor the room



Bathrooms

WHAT'S NEW?

TAKE SOME INSPIRATION FROM THE LATEST STYLES

WORDS // APRIL OSSINGTON



FINE LINES

Fine lines are appearing across all types of bathroom products, from slimline tapware to baths, toilets and impossibly thin basin designs. Made from innovative SaphirKeramik material, this Laufen Living square counter basin features delicate paper-thin walls that are extremely strong. *reece.com.au*



QUIRKY FIXTURES

While this shower head gives a nod to the past with its lamp-like appearance, it was designed with modern functionality in mind. Incredibly flexible, Closer by Zucchetti can be adjusted and extended to individual requirements. *candana.com.au*



COLOURED LEDS

People are starting to think outside the box when it comes to their homes and, as such, we are seeing more light incorporated into the bathroom — particularly in the shower. The newest development is coloured LED lighting that not only gives that ultra-modern feeling, but heightens functionality. Pictured is the Aquabeat shower by iB Rubinetterie. *pacojaanson.com.au*



TEXTURED TILES

Vivid colour isn't the only way to add interest in your bathroom. The latest tiles make use of different textures as well as recessed and asymmetrical surfaces that create a mesmerising effect. Pictured is the Lines series from the Mosa Murals collection. *designrepublic.net.au*



CUSTOM FINISHES
While special finishes on fixtures are outdated, unique bathtub finishes are on the uptake, and we are gradually seeing homeowners being more and more adventurous. Pictured is Victoria + Albert's ios bath custom finished with an Audrey Hepburn design. *vandabaths.com/aus/australasia*



MODERN MINIMALISM

Say goodbye to traditional stainless-steel shower grates and hello to minimalist drains with the latest trend including grates in the shape of a single square or circle. The Superplan Plus and Conoflat shower floors from Kaldewei feature clean lines and an enamel waste cover for a contemporary look. *bathe.net.au*

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SQUARE BATHS

While curvaceous freestanding baths are definitely the go-to in the contemporary bathroom, square baths are giving them a run for their money. The Kaldewei Meisterstücke bath features perpendicular panelling and a seamless finish — ideal for creating clean lines and a unique focal point for your space. *bathe.net.au*



SPACE SAVERS
With spaces becoming smaller and smaller, wall mounting is becoming a popular space-saving technique in the modern bathroom. Pictured is the iSpa collection from Gessi. *abey.com.au*



CEILING-MOUNTED SHOWER HEADS
Clean lines and a seamless finish define the modern aesthetic, and bathrooms are certainly following suit. The Aquabeat shower by iB Rubinetterie eliminates the need for a traditional wall-mounted shower head. Installed in the ceiling, this multifunctional rain shower head is controlled by a waterproof remote. Its double-waterfall function creates a great spectacle and is the ultimate in relaxation. *pacojaanson.com.au*





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It is no secret that Australians love cooking and entertaining. However, the more we cook, the more food scraps and waste we have to deal with, not to mention the nasty food smells.

That's why an InSinkErator food waste disposer system is a must-have appliance for the modern kitchen. Rather than scraping and pouring messy waste into a kitchen pedal bin, simply turn on the cold water tap, switch on the system and empty the food waste into the sink.

With just about any type of food waste able to go down the drain, handling of food scraps is minimised and time spent preparing and cleaning up after meals is significantly reduced.

Extremely quiet and efficient, the disposer grinds food without the use of blades in just seconds. After being ground, food waste is sent via the sewerage system to a waste water treatment plant. Treatment plants are designed to treat organic waste — in contrast to landfill sites, which are the least desirable way to dispose of organic waste. Properly equipped facilities allow food waste to be recycled, and the methane gas generated can be converted into usable energy to power homes and businesses.

The InSinkErator food waste disposer is a win for the environment and a step forward for the modern Australian kitchen.

Kitchens

CULINARY CONCEPTS

FRESH IDEAS AND
COOL DESIGN ELEMENTS

WORDS // APRIL OSSINGTON

PENDANT LIGHTING

Pendant lighting is a must-have in modern kitchens and looks great in clusters of two, three or more depending on the size of your space. *dankitchens.com.au*

DOUBLE OVENS

The perfect addition to an entertainer's kitchen, many contemporary homes feature not one, but two ovens side by side. Not only does this allow you to cook dinner and dessert at the same time, but their positioning means no more crouching down when baking. *dankitchens.com.au*

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HAMPTONS WITH A TWIST

The Hamptons style is here to stay, but there's no reason you can't add a bit of flair to the look. While the traditional Hamptons kitchen features white subway tiles or marble, this design by Wonderful Kitchens has an interesting mosaic splashback. The orange bar stools really pop against an otherwise neutral colour scheme. *wonderfulkitchens.com.au*







METALLIC FINISHES

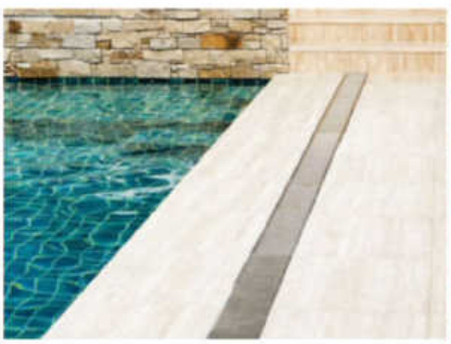
While we've seen an explosion of metallic finishes including rose gold and brass in the bathroom, an increasing number of kitchens are starting to follow suit. Creating synergy in the space, these finishes are matched with metallic pendant lighting. Pictured is the Zip HydroTap Elite in Bright Chrome (top) and Axor Starck kitchen mixer in black and brushed bronze. *zipwater.com; hansgrohe.com.au*

ENTERTAINER'S KITCHEN

Avoid having to frantically clean up when you have guests over. A scullery is a great way to keep used pots and pans, scraps and benchtop appliances out of sight. You can do all your prep work in the scullery and worry about the mess when your guests go home. *sublimegroup.com.au*

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BACKLIT MARBLE
Although an increasing number of modern kitchens are featuring coloured LED lighting, the latest trend is definitely backlit marble. This classic finish has a futuristic quality when backlit and provides the ultimate statement piece for your kitchen. *designerkitchens.com.au*



MATT BLACK
Although the modern kitchen prefers light-coloured surfaces to create that sought-after clean and open space, matt-black benchtops, sinks and tapware are very much in vogue. This Super Matt Black Nano benchtop from Freedom Kitchens adds drama and looks ultra modern. *freedomkitchens.com.au*



CLASSIC CONCRETE

While concrete flooring has been popular for a while, concrete benchtops are gaining serious traction. The perfect addition to the industrial style, Caesarstone has added Fresh Concrete and Raw Concrete to its Classico collection. *caesarstone.com.au*



OUTDOORS



184: DINING OUT
190: MODERN MASTERPIECE

Project: COS Design **Photography:** Tim Turner

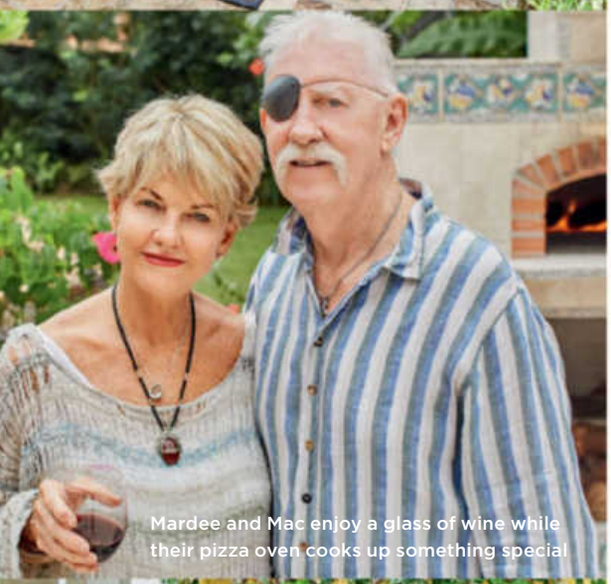
Dining Out

FOR FASHION DESIGN DUO, MAC AND MARDEE MCDONOUGH, CREATING FABULOUS LOOKS IS AN EVERYDAY EVENT. AND WHEN IT COMES TO OUTDOOR ENTERTAINING, THE PAIR'S DESIGN SKILLS ARE JUST AS EVIDENT

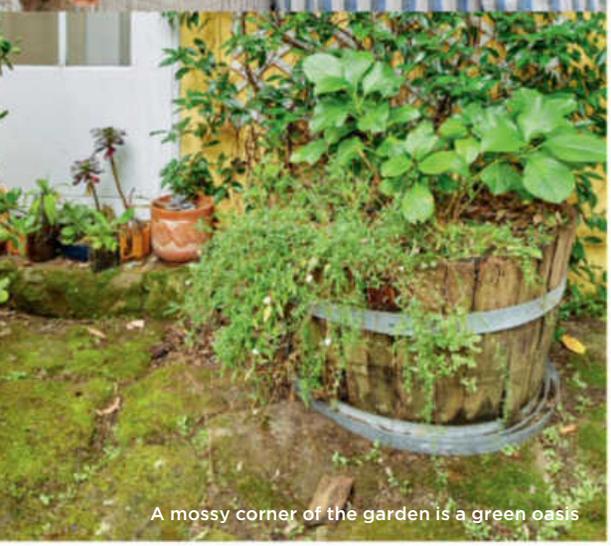








Mardee and Mac enjoy a glass of wine while their pizza oven cooks up something special



A mossy corner of the garden is a green oasis



A delicious spread of sumptuous ingredients for making wood-fired pizzas

WORDS // KATE ST JAMES, FDIA **PHOTOGRAPHY** // MARIAN RIABIC

A chance meeting in Sitges, south-west of Barcelona in Spain, during the 1970s was the beginning of a lifelong partnership for Mac and Mardee McDonough. Two of Australia's fashion leaders, the pair specialise in high-quality leather and textile fashion goods and apparel through their boutique label Estilo Emporio based in Sydney.

Acknowledged by their friends as fashion virtuosos as well as passionate foodies, their home is a special place where they entertain with as much style and pizazz as they put into their very own label.

Located in the leafy sandstone suburb of Hunters Hill, Sydney, Casa McDonough is situated at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. Built in the 1950s, the home's interior is filled with treasures collected from around the world, creating an intimate atmosphere with particular reference to Mediterranean and South American influences.

Purchased by the couple in the 1980s and extensively renovated, the home's kitchen is a place where food is prepared and shared with love. Moving outside through wide French doors, more exciting culinary opportunities await in a recently upgraded space created to indulge your taste buds. Known for their amazing food, including the Spanish classic paella, Mac and Mardee cook wood-fired pizza in their own pizza oven imported from Italy, clad with Spanish hand-painted and glazed decorative marble tiles that evoke a Mediterranean ambience. Alongside the pizza oven, there is a paella cooker and, of course, a barbecue, allowing for the preparation of a varied menu depending upon the occasion.

Everything in this space was selected for



The pizza oven is a stunning addition to the space



A feast for the senses, bright colours create a welcoming and warm atmosphere

COLOURFUL TABLEWARE FROM MEXICO, NAPERY FROM PARIS AND FRESH FLOWERS FROM THE EARLY MORNING MARKETS REFLECT THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE AND SET THE SCENE FOR THE FEASTS TO COME

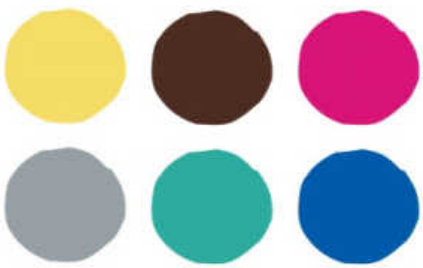
its beauty and to enhance the outdoor living and dining experience. Marble pavers feature throughout, reflecting the Carrara marble dining tabletop, which sits on a forged-iron base. Forged-iron chairs are fitted with thick cushions to ensure dining is comfortable and never rushed. To protect guests from the sun, a shade sail provides ample cover, and when the going gets hot, the nearby swimming pool provides instant relief.

The garden is dotted with colourful exotic plants and natives including wisteria and bougainvillea. Fruit trees and herbs grow in the well-supplied kitchen garden and one wall is covered with a native hedge to provide privacy from adjoining properties. Colourful tableware from Mexico, napery from Paris and fresh flowers from the early morning markets reflect the natural landscape and set the scene for the feasts to come. Guests are encouraged to create their own pizza toppings, which they can construct from the array of delicious ingredients provided including caramelised eschalots, macadamia pesto and slow-oven-dried tomatoes. They are then invited to share their various creations with each other along with the delicious wines chosen by the hosts to complement the fare.

This beautiful outdoor area is used throughout the year for family dining and entertaining. Even in winter, with the addition of fire pits and braziers — and perhaps a rug or two — guests can be certain of a warm welcome in this unique and comfortable outdoor room.

PROJECT DETAILS

Dining table from Le Forge. *leforge.com.au*
Dining chairs from Le Forge. *leforge.com.au*
Cushions from Bromley & Tate Interiors. *bromleyandtateinteriors.webs.com*
Pavers from Stone Factory. *stonefactory.com.au*
Decorative tiles imported from Spain
Pizza oven from Vesuvio Wood Fire Ovens. *woodfireovens.net*
Tableware purchased by Mardee in Mexico
Napery purchased by Mardee in Paris



Colour Palette

The look is Mediterranean. Bougainvillea provides gorgeous pops of hot pink while the green and blue tiles against the yellow walls are reminiscent of Italy's Amalfi Coast

STILL

BY BROWN JORDAN



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Contemporary and chic, the alfresco dining and lounge rooms are the home's new social hubs

PHOTOGRAPHY // TIM TURNER

With its modern, open-plan design and high-spec finish, this new outdoor room has made it possible for the owners of this Melbourne home to enjoy the ultimate in indoor–outdoor living. The brief didn't stop with the well-appointed outdoor room, however. Steve Taylor of COS Design was called upon to design a new swimming pool and spa, a playroom and office with an outdoor bathroom and shower, a large lawn and a patio and pathways.

"In terms of style, the owners wanted something funky, contemporary and stylish. What I have given them is a design with sharp, clean lines, a pop of colour and an overall look that is modern and sophisticated," says Steve.

The alfresco dining and lounge space is the new social hub of the home. This area features a Jetmaster fireplace set into a feature wall, an outdoor kitchen with under-counter bar fridges, storage space and an Electrolux barbecue. Speakers were also fitted and there is a television in the adjacent playroom, which can be viewed from the lounge area and/or spa. Completing the picture is outdoor furniture from Tait.

Running alongside the outdoor room and past the lawn is a series of bluestone steppers, which lead to the new pool. The interior of the pool is clad in white glass tiles while, for stark contrast, the elevated spa is tiled both inside and out in black, creating a mirror-like reflection pond. Adding to the well-orchestrated symphony of colours in the pool area are the white polished concrete slab and grey bluestone paving.

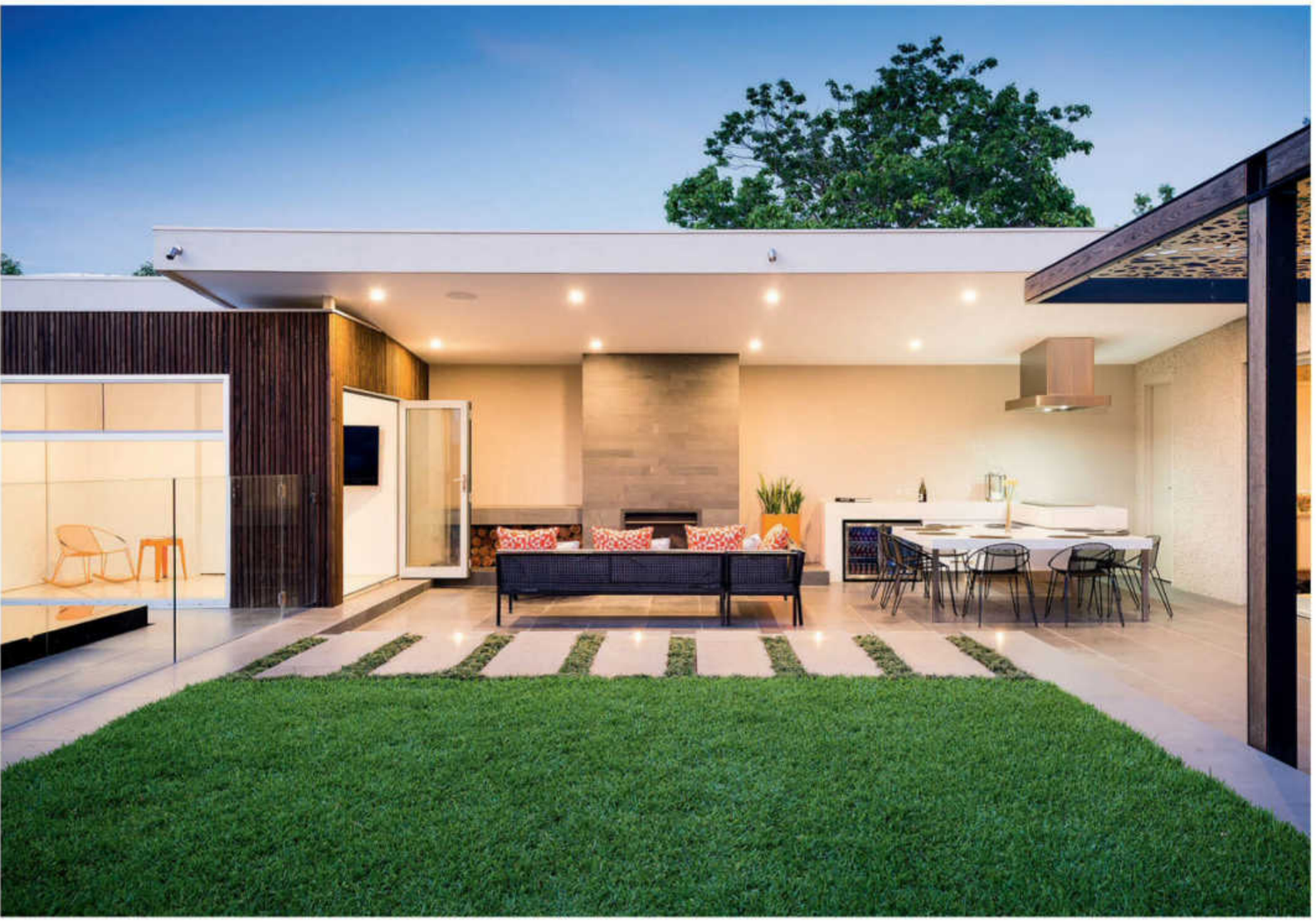
Ensuring a coordinated look, the same bluestone paving was used for the outdoor room and patio that runs along the back of the home. For partial shade and visual interest, laser-cut Ink Blot screens from Lump were incorporated into the arbour roof that covers the patio. For night-time appeal, lighting from Gardens at Night was installed in the patio and all other outdoor areas.

The planting palette is an engaging mix. As you cast your eye over the garden, you will spot an aloe tree, a border hedge of dwarf lilly pillies, 'Teddy Bear' magnolias, black mondo grass, birds of paradise, a Japanese maple, Nandina 'Flirt' and Buxus spheres.

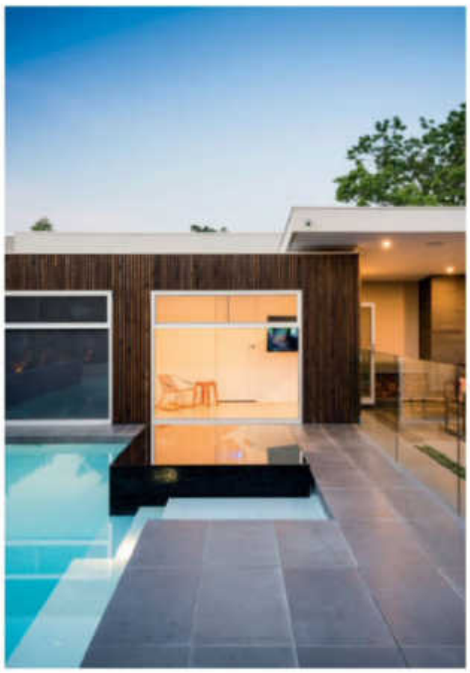
Thanks to a collaborative effort between designer and contract administrator Steve Taylor, Esjay Landscapes, Build 180 (which built the outdoor room and arbour) and pool builder Serenity Pools, the owners have the modern outdoor retreat they craved.

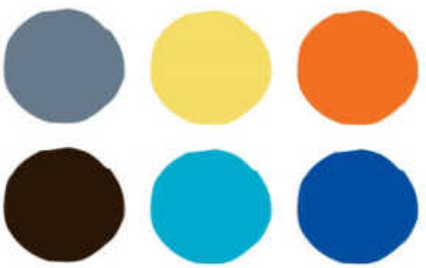
OPPOSTE ABOVE Tait outdoor furniture completes the stylish new outdoor areas
OPPOSITE BOTTOM LEFT The laser-cut Ink Blot arbour roof is a visually interesting feature of the patio
OPPOSITE BOTTOM RIGHT The black-tiled spa creates a sophisticated contrast against the all-white pool tiles

PROJECT DETAILS
Landscape design and management COS Design
Website *cosdesign.com.au*









Colour Palette

Rusty steel and dark timber with steel grey pavers is given colour from orange furnishings and the gorgeous deep blue and turquoise hues of the pool

TAKE ME OUT

THE LATEST OUTDOOR ROOMS ARE ALL ABOUT FUNCTION AND FLOW, BUT DON'T BE AFRAID TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX

WORDS // APRIL OSSINGTON

A huge trend in outdoor living is unifying the indoors and out so they can be enjoyed as one big space. The most popular configuration is having an indoor kitchen and dining space flowing onto your outdoor kitchen and entertaining area. Not only does this double your entertaining and kitchen space, but it makes sense from a logistics perspective as it will help you avoid carrying food through other areas of the home. Another important aspect is the addition of floor-to-ceiling bi-fold or concertina doors that fold completely to one side, as they create a seamless flow from indoors to out.



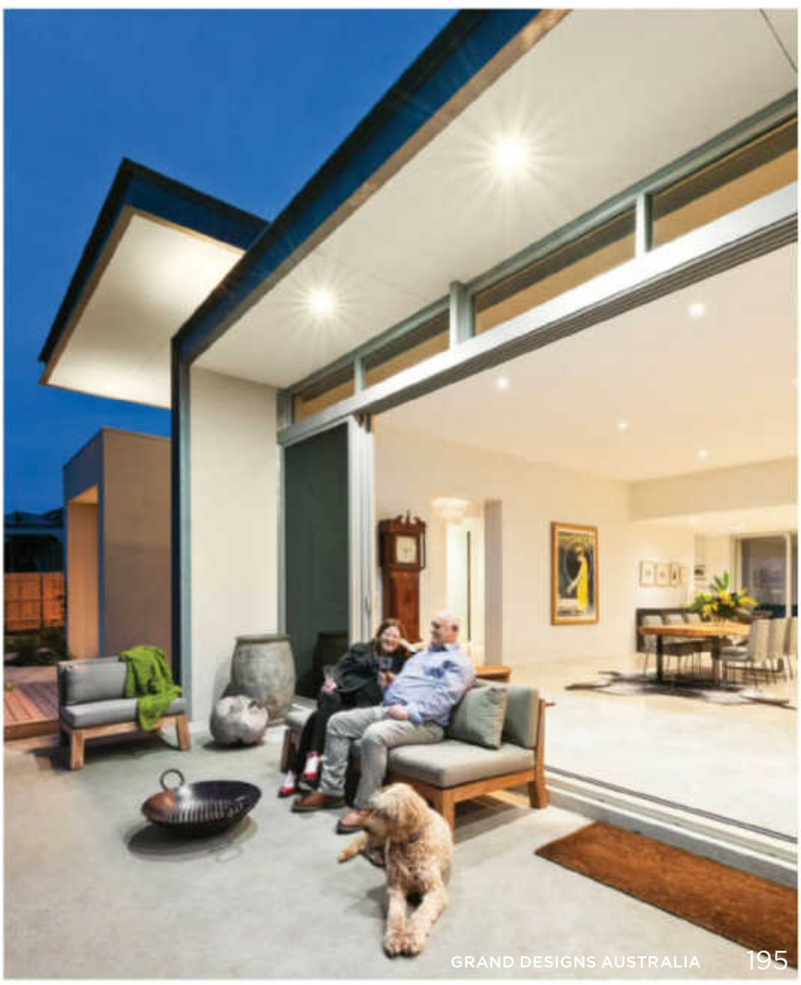


1 The Brighton Sixties House from Series Two is the perfect example of indoor–outdoor living. Careful consideration was put into making the space flow seamlessly from the kitchen to the outdoor area. What really brings the space together is the continuation of concrete flooring from the indoors and stairs to the outdoor areas and pool. As different batches of concrete can vary in appearance and you only see the finished product once it's poured, honed and treated, choosing matching concrete in each area was a laborious task — though the end result speaks for itself. Expansive sliding glass doors certainly bring the outdoors in when pulled all the way back. While a covered outdoor area could have darkened the space as well as the adjoining indoor area, the outdoor skylight brings light into the adjoined areas, making it appear luminous.

OUR TOP FIVE OUTDOOR ROOMS

We've selected the best across the *Grand Designs Australia* series

2 The design for the Mt Eliza Modern House from Series Five was inspired by the block's expansive bays views. The original '80s home had the kitchen and living areas facing south, which not only made it dark, but didn't take advantage of the outlook. The new brief was to connect the living, kitchen and outdoor area and allow views from the new space. Floor-to-ceiling windows and ample lighting both inside and out create an inviting area that certainly blurs the boundaries between indoors and out.





3 The Mansfield Indoor/Outdoor House from Series Three certainly lives up to its name. The key feature of this home is the central courtyard that brings all the spaces together and facilitates the indoor–outdoor lifestyle that is so important to the owners. The courtyard also provides an attractive entrance to the property that leads straight to the heart of the home — the kitchen. This modern farmhouse makes use of more traditional features, including corrugated iron, brick and a predominantly neutral colour palette, which are contrasted by vivid yellow eaves. The home's signature feature is the roof structure, which adds a dramatic architectural element and contemporary look to the space.



4 Making use of a battleaxe block, the Hunters Hill Textural House from Series Four has a unique take on the outdoor room. Connection to the outdoors was an important aspect of the home's design brief as the owners wanted to bring the outdoors in and vice versa. The pavilion that houses an open-plan living area with a kitchen, dining and living room is certainly the standout feature of this residence. With large sliding doors on either side, the spacecan be opened up like a big outdoor room and, amazingly, the rooftop doubles as a beautiful garden.



Renon outdoor extension table with Nusa Dua chairs



5 With the original home on this block destroyed in the Black Saturday bushfires, the Bushfire House from Series One was designed to stand strong while emphasising its destructive history. Completely sustainable and a place for healthy living, the build utilises a range of recycled and natural materials and contrasts clean lines with rough and rusted textures. The loft-style bedroom and study area on the second level connects with a stunning roof garden dedicated to local and indigenous plants, while the impressive lap pool doubles as a water feature and is separated from the living space by a wall of toughened glass. Other notable outdoor features include the deck, yoga lawn and turtle pond, which pays homage to its bushland surrounds.



01



02



03

THIS SEASON'S **HOTTEST FURNITURE**

01: Available in a range of colours, the Butter chair comes in single- and two-colour options for a unique look. *designbythem.com*

02: With a nod to the traditional picnic table, the Hopper Table 06 has a curvaceous, modern shape and heightened functionality. It features clever pass-through zones in each corner so you don't disturb fellow diners when leaving the table. *cultdesign.com.au*

03: The Delta outdoor circle sofa is the perfect spot to sit and read a book. It features King Living's patented KingWeave that is specially designed to keep its finish longer than traditional wicker and rattans. *kingliving.com.au*

04: With a base weaved from high-quality polyethylene fibres, the Florida Pompano Beach chaise lounge by Rausch comes in a range of vibrant cushion colours. *duneoutdoorluxuries.com.au*

05: The Lujo hammock was hand-crafted in New Zealand using high-quality Sunbrella marine fabrics, durable Kwila hardwood and quality marine-grade stainless mechanisms. Its attachable side pockets are perfect for housing items including magazines, tablets, phones, drinks and sunscreen. *lujo.com.au*

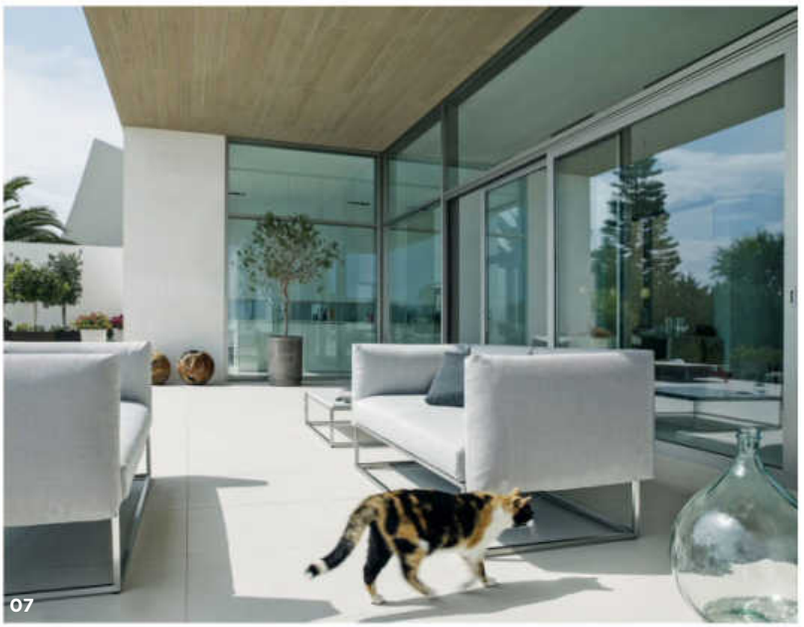


05



04


06


07


09

08



06: With its chic black tabletop and grey legs, the Long Beach collection by Rausch is perfect for a contemporary setting. *duneoutdoorluxuries.com.au*

07: Pillowy cushions and rectangular aluminium legs make the Cloud seating set by Gloster look just like the sofa from the Mansfield Indoor/Outdoor House — a timeless look. *coshliving.com.au*

08: The perfect addition to a curvaceous, architecturally designed home, the Kwila Sunlounger from Lujo will add an interesting feature to your outdoor space. It has been cleverly designed to allow multiple lounging positions by utilising a stopper to lock it into different positions. You can even set it to a subtle rocking motion for the ultimate in relaxation. *lujo.com.au*

09: Pictured in a contemporary shade of grey, the Zendo sofa by Manutti is the ultimate in outdoor luxury. *coshliving.com.au*

WE LOVE

For something completely unique, the Paros daybed from Satara Australia is crafted from solid teak and features an abundance of soft, pillowy cushions. Upholstery is also available in world-renowned Sunbrella all-weather fabric for extra protection. *satara.com.au*



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COVER UP

PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM THE ELEMENTS INSIDE AND OUT

WORDS // APRIL OSSINGTON

Thanks to our temperate climate and laidback attitude, outdoor entertaining has become a fundamental part of the Australian lifestyle. In the warmer weather, an outdoor area is the preferred spot for a relaxing sun-drenched breakfast, weekend lunches and dinner parties. However, the harsh Aussie sun means outdoor areas should benefit from some type of protection. A beautiful and functional outdoor entertaining area is a great way to add extra living space to your home and obtain that sought-after indoor–outdoor living environment. However, choosing a design that complements your home and your lifestyle can be tricky.

The latest outdoor solutions not only let you make the most of the outside, but also protect the contents of your home from sun damage while providing great insulation. Shading windows and doors will reduce or maintain the temperature within a home as well as limit the glare and harshness of low-lying sun. UV light can have a damaging effect on furniture, artwork and other furnishings, causing fabrics to fade and some pieces to become weak and brittle. While internal curtains and blinds are a suitable solution, more versatile and functional options are available.

Clovelly House from *Grand Designs Australia* Series One



Cocoon 5010 cassette awning from *markilux.com.au*

AWNINGS

Awnings can be installed as permanent, demountable or retractable sources of shade over the exterior of windows and doors. They can be cut to a variety of sizes and shapes to suit different homes and most have a sturdy construction, making them ideal for weathering high winds and heavy rain.

Otherwise known as retractable awnings, folding-arm awnings have the advantage of shading an area from heat or rain when needed. Simon Meyer from Blinds by Peter Meyer explains the different types available. "An entry-level choice when it comes to price, open awnings are ideally suited for installation under eaves as they have exposed arms and fabric — they can also be fitted with protective hoods. Offering a bit more protection, semi-cassette awnings shield the fabric and when the front rail is fully closed, the mechanism is tucked away safely. Ideal for all applications, cassette awnings offer superior protection to both the fabric and mechanism. They last longer and create a more streamlined, aesthetically pleasing look when compared to other options. When choosing between cassette, semi-cassette and open arm, appearance and budget will be the main considerations. In regards to the latest technology, the range of Weinor awnings feature Dyneema long-life tape in the arms, which offers an alternative to the traditionally used cables or chains that tend to stretch and break down over time. Utilising technology used in the manufacturing of parts for aircrafts, these awnings also feature drop-forged arms that are designed to take strong loads, while a patented floating tube gives constant fabric support as the awning extends to its full projection. This gives the fabric more tension and helps limit the wrinkling that can occur in awning fabrics," informs Simon.



Awning from *ap-shutters.com/au*



Syncra 2 (fix/uno fix) from *markilux.com.au*



Folding-arm awning from *petermeyerblinds.com.au*

WE LOVE THE WAY THE OUTDOOR SHUTTERS BLEND WITH THE ARCHITECTURE PERFECTLY, BECOMING PART OF THE DESIGN

Clovelly House from *Grand Designs Australia* Series One



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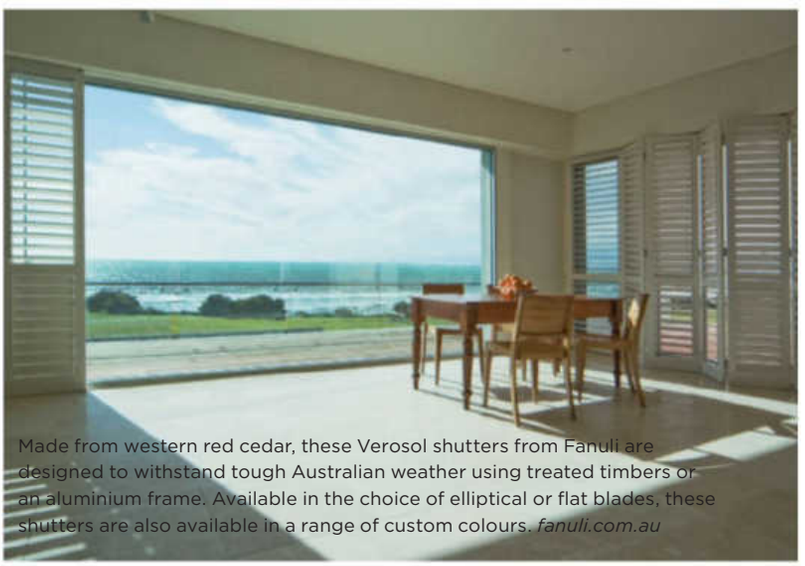
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The tensioned Tracfix-track vertical blind from Markilux is perfect for wide windows and drops straight down. Due to its vario-belt tensioning system, the cover is extremely taut so it sustains a strong resistance to wind. This blind gives superior solar protection for large windows as its unique Tracfix technology eliminates any light gaps. *markilux.com.au*



These Luxaflex PolySatin shutters combine the look and lustre of freshly painted wood with the durability of polyresin. Perfect for outdoor applications, they won't blister, peel, flake, corrode or fade from exposure to sunlight or water. *luxaflex.com.au*



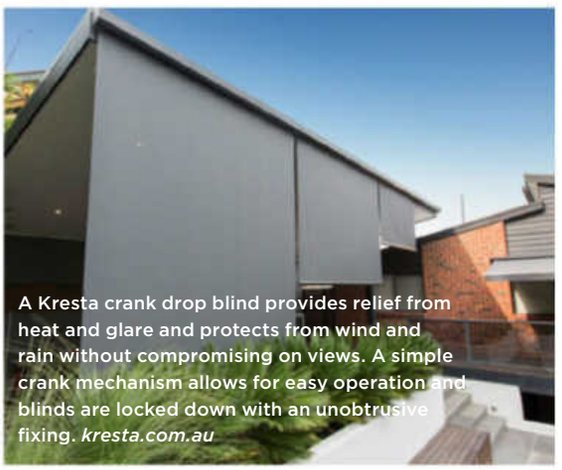
Made from western red cedar, these Verosol shutters from Fanuli are designed to withstand tough Australian weather using treated timbers or an aluminium frame. Available in the choice of elliptical or flat blades, these shutters are also available in a range of custom colours. *fanuli.com.au*

SHUTTERS & BLINDS

Exterior shutters and straight-drop blinds are other options for shading your windows and doors, keeping your home cool in summer while insulating it in winter. Both awnings and blinds are available in a range of materials that reflect UV light and reduce glare, thereby increasing the energy efficiency of your home.

External shutters were traditionally made of timber, due to its availability, classic looks and timber colouring. Today, modern alternatives to timber such as PVC and aluminium are becoming increasingly popular due to their superior durability and water resistance. For those who seek the aesthetic of timber, a wide range of options are available that look like natural or painted timber. Known for its resistance to moisture, decay and insect damage, western red cedar is still a popular choice for outdoor shutters that adds warmth to the architecture of your home.

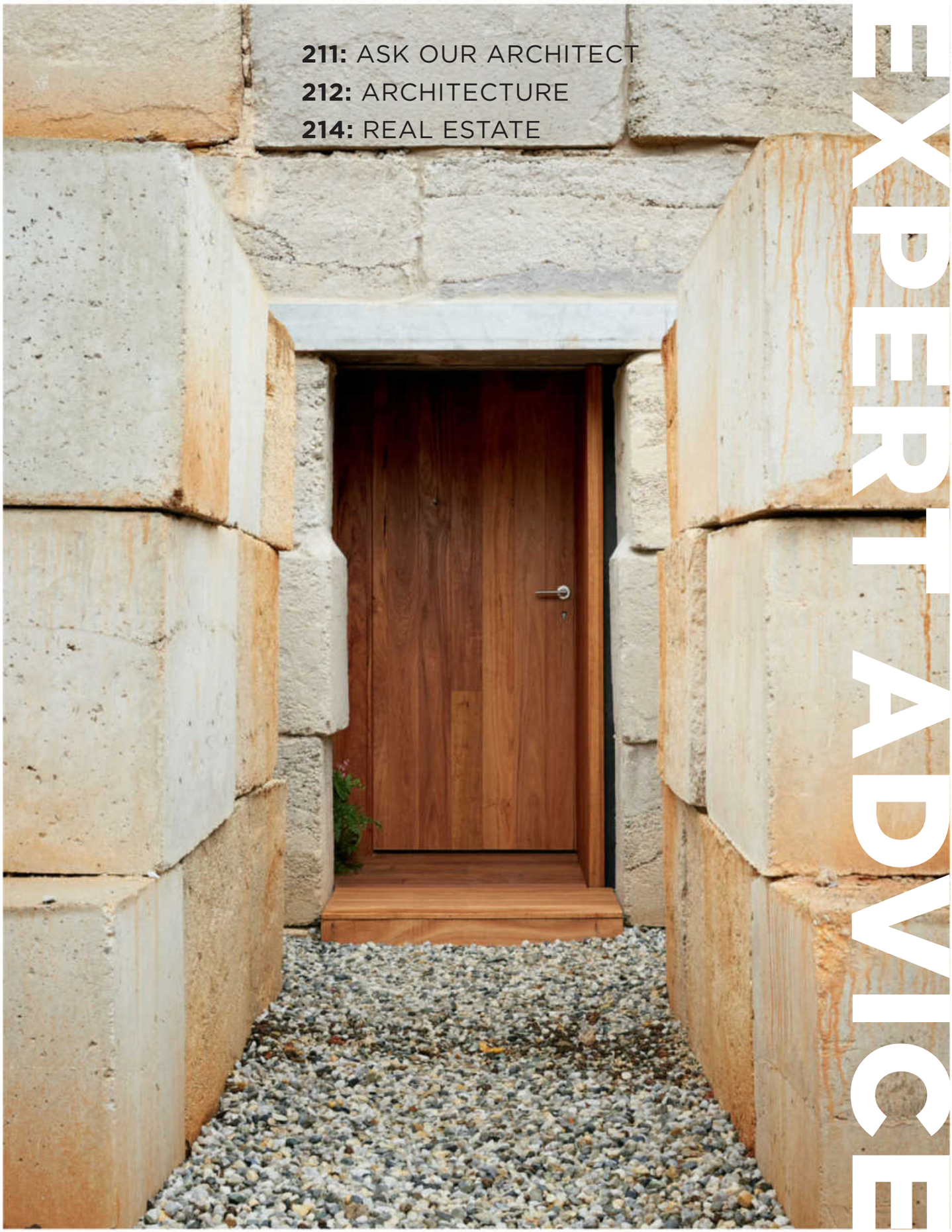
Straight-drop blinds are another effective way of protecting your home from the harsh morning and afternoon sun while maintaining views. They are available as hand-crank operated or motorised and modern versions come with wind and sun sensors for extra convenience.



A Kresta crank drop blind provides relief from heat and glare and protects from wind and rain without compromising on views. A simple crank mechanism allows for easy operation and blinds are locked down with an unobtrusive fixing. *kresta.com.au*

EXPERT ADVICE

211: ASK OUR ARCHITECT
212: ARCHITECTURE
214: REAL ESTATE



Project: Yackandandah Sawmill House **Photography:** Emma Cross



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Photographer: Brett Boardman





Project: Brookfield Spotted Gum from Series Five

ASK OUR ARCHITECT

Editor-at-large, Peter Maddison answers readers' questions

Q Peter, I'm 30 years old and aspire to build a house with my partner in Brisbane. We have about $650,000 to spend in total. Have you got any tips for us? And what style of house do you recommend? We love the Queenslander's elevated, relaxed style, but worry this may be a bit passé.

A I assume you own the land you are proposing to build on. First, you need to have a world view in regard to your budget. This is known as total project cost. If $650,000 is the total, it's not what you can pay a builder. To establish this, you need to deduct items such as GST, professional fees, authority charges and any other incidental costs including landscaping, furniture and, most importantly, a contingency. You will find that once these costs are deducted, the money left for the builder is called the cost of works. This is generally around 30 per cent of your total project cost. Therefore, you probably have about $600,000 to spend with your builder.

For this sum, you may be looking at a single-storey house. I suggest you focus on its design rather than its size, possibly a three-bedroom, two-bathroom 200–250m² home. Look to develop a house with flexible spaces. A good exemplar house is the Rose Seidler House in Wahroonga, Sydney.

Regarding style, I, like you, believe the Queenslander has some great qualities, but can be reinterpreted with a contemporary approach. Last season, we followed a terrific house built in Brookfield just out of Brisbane. It had the elevation and timber spirit the Queenslander possesses, but was executed in an inventive way. Get your designer to tap into the environmental issues particular to your area as well as your interests. This will give the house more meaning.

Photography: Toby Scott

Q I'm 66, live on the Gold Coast and our house has a waterway frontage. My wife and I love the location, but can no longer afford to run our large motor launch. Without a boat, the reason for living here diminishes. Would you suggest selling and building a smaller home away from the water?

A This is a very personal decision. Be aware that building a new one-off home from scratch will take at least two to three years and is often a long-distance race. Perhaps you could trade down to a dinghy to keep your connection to the water or sell access rights to your jetty to another party and use the money to renovate?

Q We have a mid-century house in Beaumaris, Melbourne and are renovating. Our house is full of shagpile carpet and we want to replace this because it's too hard to maintain and has too much dust for my husband who suffers from hay fever. What surface would you recommend for the main living area and kitchen?

A I recommend sheet material or vinyl tiles in the kitchen. Architects of the day used both finger and block parquetry and cork tiles. Be aware that timber floors in the kitchen area will wear faster, so a more durable material such as brick face, terracotta tiles or even a stone tile could work. The substrate will determine your options also. I like carpet in the bedrooms as it's comfortable under bare feet. There are lots of suppliers. Peruse this magazine for contact details and inspiration.

Q We have watched every episode of *Grand Designs Australia* and wonder what you see as the next big trend or breakthrough in living and designing houses in this country?

A Affordability and availability of land in the cities will drive change. Our main capital cities will be 30 per cent more dense by 2050. The great Aussie aspiration of the quarter-acre block with a sports field in the front and back is almost now a thing of the past.

Houses will be more shared by extended family as seen elsewhere in big cities such as Italy and Japan. This is not necessarily a bad thing as I believe holding onto the family unit in a shared home can be great for a richer life, provided the home is designed or renovated with this in mind. Apartment living is the other big change, and it's how we can obtain individuality and a sense of community in these developments that will determine a happy society. Good design has a big role to play.





Q&A — NEED PETER'S HELP?

EMAIL YOUR QUERIES TO
homedesign@universalmagazines.com.au





Jon King is one of the most accomplished practitioners of architectural sketching. He has volumes of hand-drawn studies that have led to the creation of some magnificent homes. Here is a two-point perspective of the Palm Beach House observing how the building would appear from the garden as well as testing the colour of certain materials

WHERE IDEAS FORM

Sketching is one of the great tools an architect has to explore ideas and possibilities

WORDS // PETER COLQUHOUN

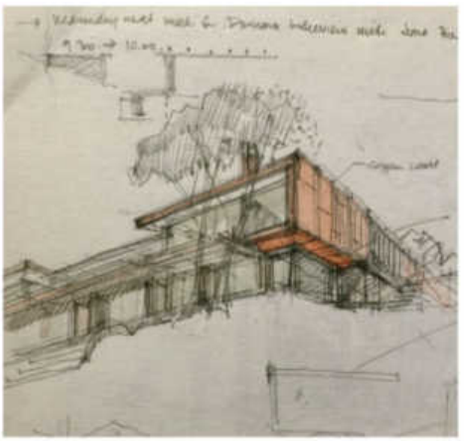
I love drawing. From sitting on an exotic street corner and sketching to roughing out ideas on a napkin, I believe creative minds love to doodle. From scribbles may emerge masterpieces. No matter how crude or illegible, the mere act of making a mark on a blank surface means a creative decision has to be made. The first sketch may not be where the design ends up, but at least you've made a start.

If the design can be distilled in a few lines, the concept is clear. There is also a certain romance attached to a hand-drawn sketch. Indeed, computer-generated drawings can now re-render sophisticated models with the touch of a button, making them look hand-drawn and attempting to capture that seductive human touch.

During my university days, art classes were encouraged for young architects and I had the great honour of learning from some of the country's greatest draftsmen including John Santry and Dr Lloyd Rees. The act of forcing the eye to look hard at a subject, whether that subject be in front of you or in the imagination, requires silent time.

The best sketches are those that have just enough information to guide the viewer's own imagination. I never travel anywhere without a sketch book. I can sit and draw a scene for 30 seconds or four hours. Taking a photo gives you a record, but the act of sketching imprints the scene in your memory. You can look back at those sketches years later and feel the sun, recall the time of day, remember the distractions and ultimately have a greater connection to the place because of the time spent sketching.

There are several ways in which architects use sketches. There is the crude rough sketch, which helps distil concepts, the more refined sketch that explores further possibilities, and



of course, there is the presentation rendering. Each type of sketch is just as valuable as the next in terms of generating and refining the design.

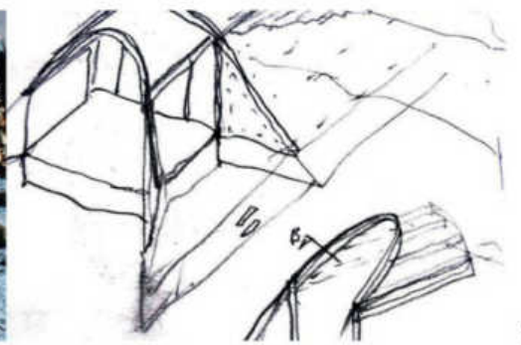
Sketches and renderings were once the only ways architects could communicate their ideas, and even in this computer age, it's a skill that needs to be encouraged. When you look at a good designer's sketch, it provides just enough information for the viewer to be engaged — a hook for others to also imagine the possibilities.

Over the years, I have worked with many great architects and all were fluent in the ability to draw. Some were better at it than others, but it's the process of making a mark that is the important thing. While computers explore possibilities, the genesis comes from the sketch.

Here are a few examples of how architects can capture and create the world around them through the beautiful art of sketching — from travel sketch books that record important memories of the built world to early concept sketches that have led to awe-inspiring designs.

James Stockwell's early sketches of Kalkite House in which he's testing the concept with rough isometric studies. An example of how architects quickly rule ideas in or out before further development of the design. Photography by Patrick Bingham Hall



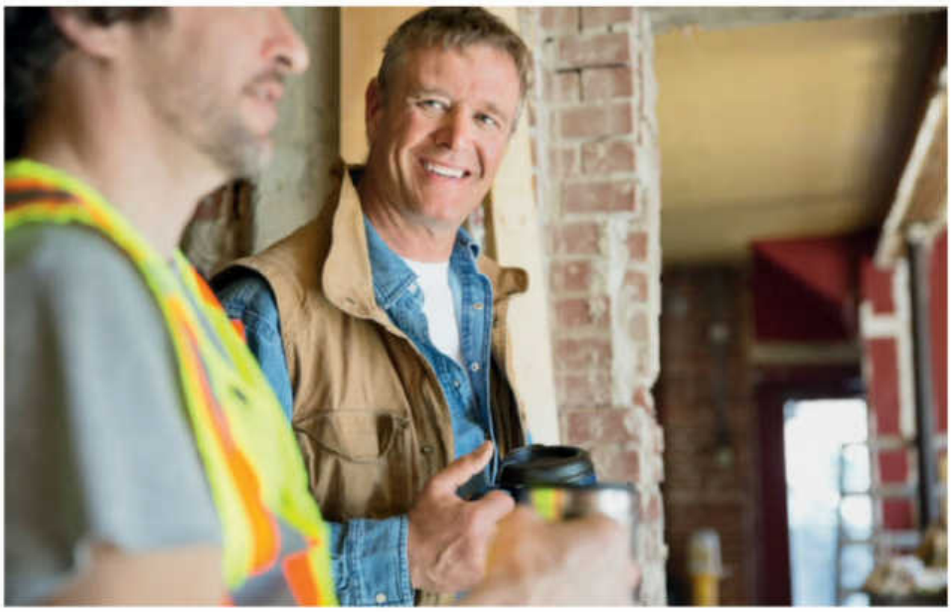




In this bird's-eye sketch, Renato D'Ettorre uses an isometric perspective to explore how the entire composition sits in its landscape. Renato uses a single-point perspective to capture the lineal geometry of the design and the idea of forms floating on water. The relaxed spaces are emphasised by the figures, which also give a sense of scale

THE BEST SKETCHES ARE THOSE THAT HAVE JUST ENOUGH INFORMATION TO GUIDE THE VIEWER'S OWN IMAGINATION





SURVIVING YOUR BUILD

Keeping control of your project will ensure you don't lose sight of your dream

WORDS // ANDREW WINTER

After many years of dreaming and planning, suddenly it is approaching — the day that vacant block becomes empty no more. The utes and diggers arrive, safety fences are put into place and that plastic dunny sits proudly amid it all ... That's one scenario, of course. Perhaps it's your existing home about to be flattened to the ground with all the memories it holds? Or your house is about to go from small, pokey and old to big, bright and contemporary.

For many, the journey to get this far can be seriously challenging. Choosing a design, selecting builders, battling with easements, drains and other hidden underground surprises are first. Then there are covenants, council approvals, setbacks and maybe even complications with neighbours or access. Getting to start day is no mean feat, and it's often a relief to finally see some action. It can be so tempting to sit back knowing that within a prescribed number of days and months, your dream could be fulfilled.

My words of caution relate to this time, this exact point in the process when it can be so easy to sit back and relax feeling confident the project is now in the capable hands of your builder. All you have to do is book the removalists, start thinking cushions and decide who should come to the house warming, right?

First, I'm not saying builders are incapable of seeing the whole process through from start to finish; many are capable but choose not to be and some really are not. I think it is the safest option to presume they are not 100 per cent capable — sorry to those builders out there! Please note, I am convinced ongoing client involvement is essential to a successful project. As the owner of the development, it's your dream and you must stay in control. No-one else has that vested, unquestionable interest or, in fact, the ability to say yes or no to variations, desired extras or forced changes and compromises. You may have heard all sorts of horror stories from overspending to delays or just annoying events that you have to live with for the next five to 10 years.

Second, there are only two real elements that go wrong with any build, and they are time delays and overspending. That may surprise you, but before you relax too much, the problem is that each of those two factors can occur courtesy of different scenarios. Generally, all we want as a client is the project to be finished on time and on budget. If the cost has increased, we need to be happy we are getting upgrades or correcting an issue no-one could have foreseen. Your direct continued involvement is the only way budgets and timescales have any chance of survival, so stay away at your peril. You are the key to a successful build, so here are some survival tips:

- Make it clear you will be part of the day-to-day process, frequently on-site and often appearing unannounced. Some will embrace this and others will tell you it is forbidden. If that's the case, explain that another builder may have to be considered. The reality is there are so many rules and regulations about building sites, and if you have to get a hard hat, the right shoes and even a white card, organise it and ensure you make this very clear.
- Be of assistance, not a pain in the proverbial. Yes, it is your build, but it is their site and profession. It is tricky to find a balance where both sides work together. Sometimes things will go wrong, tradies will be sick and deliveries will not arrive on schedule. Always look for solutions not problems.
- Understand and know your plans inside out. This way, mistakes can be spotted and corrected at little or no cost. True, it is the contractor's responsibility, but there may be a time you need a favour and you've avoided a delay.
- No matter how detailed plans are, features of the build may not work in reality and decisions need to be made then and there. You need to be on call to help with the decision-making process.
- With extras and upgrades, it's easy to get carried away. On some occasions, upgrading can make sense, so understand the exact cost of the variations, get it in writing and do your research to ensure it is a reasonable charge.
- Know the neighbours and keep them on board. If you have them on side, the chances of complaints are reduced. Without this encouraged cooperation, they could become a little less than helpful, which could add to costs and delay your schedule.
- Get a realistic timeframe for the project. Some builders will offer guarantees, but they can be flawed by the time they claim for wet days, public holidays and an insufficient supply of meat pies. Your regular site presence will tell you if the team has been called away or working hard.

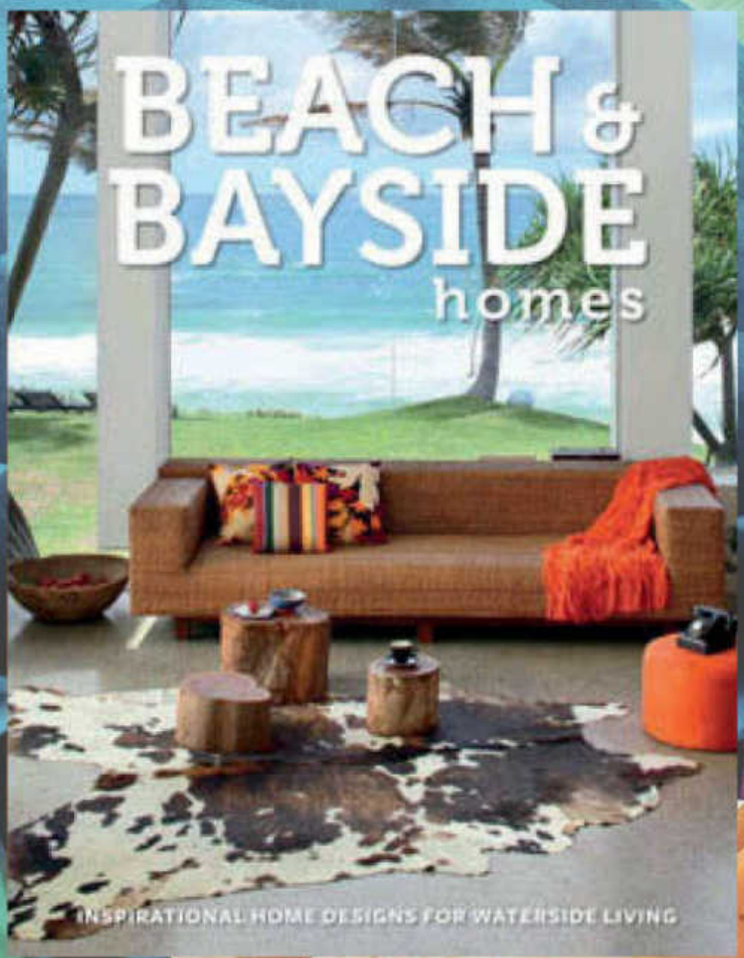
Your ultimate goal is to not let your dream get out of your control. Remember, timeframe and overspending is all that can go wrong. The fact that you are on-site regularly, passing by and ready to answer questions and make decisions will have a genuine positive impact. And providing you don't suddenly announce your new higher level of interest halfway through the process, all parties involved should benefit.



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01

PRODUCT AND SERVICE REVIEW

01: PICTURE PERFECT
United Artworks specialises in genuine hand-painted works of art using quality oils and acrylics on cotton-blend canvases that are fully stretched, wired and ready to hang. *Insitu* (pictured) is just one example of the fine-crafted paintings, available in various sizes, starting from 120cm and up by 60cm depending on your room design and needs. The company's floating frames are available in a natural timber finish, satin black or white, adding the perfect gallery touch to any room. *unitedartworks.com.au*

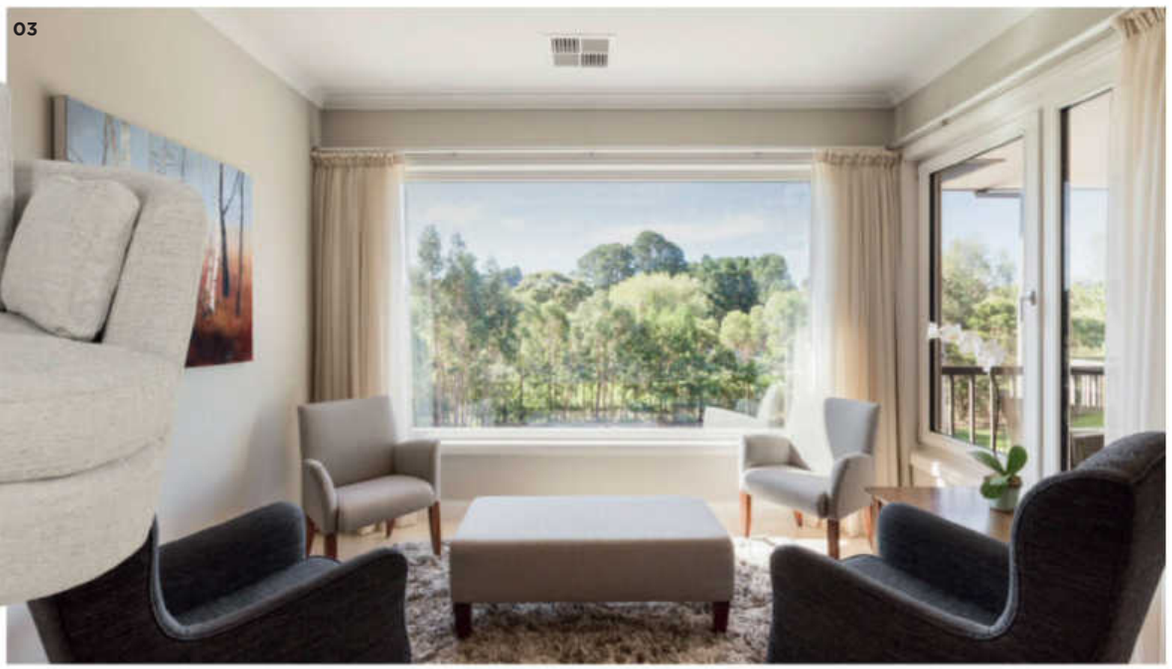
02: A HEALTHY KITCHEN
Falmec Italy has revolutionised the cooker hood industry with its new E-ion cooker hood range. Using bipolar-controlled ionisation technology, these cooker hoods will not only decrease unpleasant odours, but also re-establish optimum ionic balance in the living environment — a significant benefit to our health. Falmec cooker hoods neutralise all polluting agents in the air including bacteria, viruses, dust mites, pollen and foul odours. What's more, these cooker hoods are so easy to install, there is no need for masonry works. *abey.com.au*



02

03: TILT & TURN
With the highest energy rating possible, Paarhammer's double- or triple-glazed European-style timber tilt-and-turn windows are made to order. With an energy-efficient rating of more than seven stars, they provide sound protection of up to 45dB as well as a patented multi-point locking system. Paarhammer offers customised solutions Australia-wide from a large selection of timbers including those that are FSC-certified. The frames have unparalleled strength and security, and all products are tested and approved for all bushfire levels up to and including BAL-FZ. *paarhammer.com.au*

04: CUDDLEPOT
Fall in love with the littlest Snuggle from Plush. This modern take on the loveseat features a clever swivel or fixed base and is the perfect place to cuddle up. Crafted with care and constructed with quality timbers and foams, the Snuggle Petite is sure to stand the test of time and comes with the Plush 10-year peace of mind warranty. It is available in a wide range of colours to suit any interior. *plush.com.au*



03



04


05


06


08

07



05: TURN IT UP
High-end audio brand Wilson Audio has introduced its latest masterpiece, Sabrina — a three-way floor-standing loudspeaker with a relatively small footprint. The objective was to create a loudspeaker that could offer the type of dynamic contrast, harmonic expression and powerful experience that encompasses the defining character of the brand's celebrated loudspeakers. Consisting of an eight-inch woofer, five-inch midrange and a one-inch tweeter, the Sabrina boasts a nominal impedance of four ohms with a 31Hz–21kHz frequency response and a sensitivity of 87dB. Standing at only 96cm tall, Sabrina may be one of the smallest loudspeakers on the market. *advanceaudio.com.au*

06: FOUR CORNERS
Even in the most contemporary kitchen designs, making the best use of space is of prime importance. Corner-base units allow you to make effective use of otherwise-wasted space. Häfele's new Mondo corner cabinet system for symmetric corners is clearly a cut above the rest. Capitalising on tricky corner spaces can be a challenge, but Mondo makes it easy with its clever use of practical carousel trays. The folding fitting with a soft-close mechanism allows the door to be opened and closed effortlessly. Featuring greater stability and a height-adjustable upper carousel tray, this corner cabinet is the ultimate solution when it comes to kitchen corners. *hafele.com.au*

07: GO WITH THE FLOW
With an iF Design Award under its belt, the Milli Axon basin mixer plus accompanying range of shower heads and accessories sets the standard for in-vogue tapware design. Inspired by the beauty and perfection of the blade, the Milli Axon range is a revolution in design, with sheer lines being brought to life through the use of solid-brass construction. Milli Axon tapware is the result of a growing demand for statement pieces in the bathroom. It's both modern and striking, with an elegant cylindrical profile and contrasting finishes of matt black, chrome or rose gold. *reece.com.au*

08: LINE UP
With its clean, simple lines, the minimalistic style of Hydrotherm's Tube series will complement any contemporary-style bathroom. Uniquely unassuming, the single tube has been cleverly designed to function both vertically and horizontally. Its brash 50mm dimensions provide the platform for increased heat transfer and optimum functionality. Practical and stylish, the Single Tube has the innate ability to complement anyone



09



10



11

and everyone's individual taste. *hydrotherm.com.au*

09: TWIST & SHOUT
Hydrotherm's Swivel series towel rack ensures maximum functionality without compromising wall space or style. The swivel action conveniently allows towels to be accessed quickly and easily — a serious benefit for those taking hot showers on cool mornings. For the perfect combination of flair and functionality, don't miss out on this seriously stylish addition to your bathroom. *hydrotherm.com.au*

10: KEEP IT COOL
With a temperature range from two to 20 degrees Celsius, Liebherr's new UKes 1752 stainless-steel-framed tinted glass door beverage centre offers the perfect storage solution for your food and drinks. The MagicEye controls and internal LED temperature display allow you to adjust the temperature with ease and there are multiple storage options including two glass shelves. An internal light makes it easy to locate your favourite items from within. *andico.com.au*

11: SO VAIN
This pair of DuPont Corian Purity basins are smoothly recessed into a cantilevered vanity in Glacier White. With its renewed and expanded range, Corian offers versatile and modern design, with innovative and unique technical features. This evolution makes Corian the perfect solution for bathrooms. To learn more about the entire DuPont Corian sink and vanity bowl range, request the new product catalogue by visiting the website or calling 1800 CORIAN. Photography by Riccardo Bianchi. *corian.com.au*

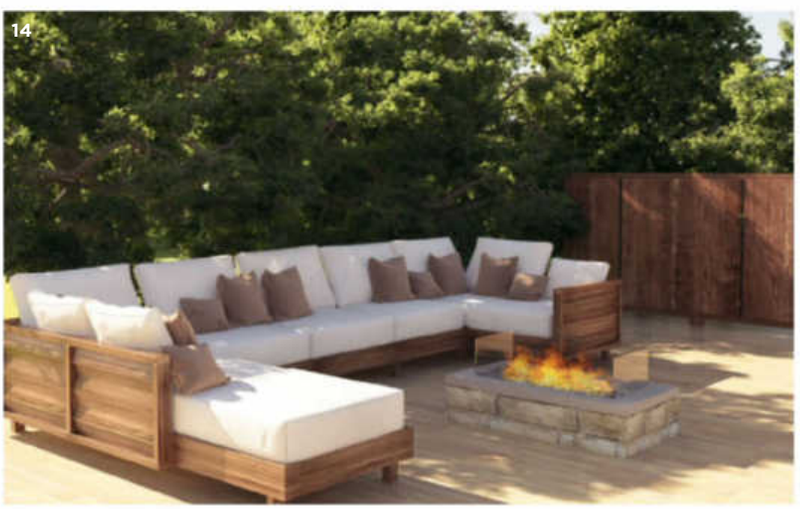

12


13

12: BEAUTIFUL BY DESIGN
Bali Republic's new Nusa Dua outdoor table range combines premium-quality materials such as stainless steel, grade-A plantation teak and a granite centrepiece for an ultra-modern look. The Nusa Dua outdoor tables are available in a round or rectangular shape and are backed by a five-year warranty for residential use. All purchases come with a money-back guarantee. To discover more, visit the online showroom or call 1300 430 809. *balirepublic.com.au*

13: ITALIAN STYLE
The ideal choice for the family who values good food, unique design and shared experiences, the Morsø Forno is an outdoor oven that offers endless opportunities for alfresco dining. Based on the geometry and elements of a traditional Italian stone oven, the Morsø Forno allows you to prepare pizza and breads, grill a variety of meats and vegetables or use the optional stainless-steel door for smoking or slow-cooking your favourite foods. Made from cast iron with added UV resistance, the colour and visual appearance of the Morsø Forno withstands prolonged exposure to the elements. *castworks.com.au*

14: LIGHT MY FIRE
With three different configurations and five media options, Real Flame's Pit Fire range gives you complete creative control. Available in circular, square or rectangular models, there's a choice of two sizes. Furthermore, the media options include scoria, glass fragment, driftwood (natural gas only), river pebbles and glazed pebbles. All variations come with a burner, tray and lid and are standard with battery ignition. *realflame.com.au*


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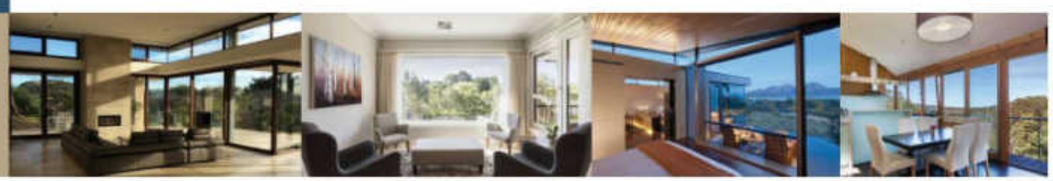
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